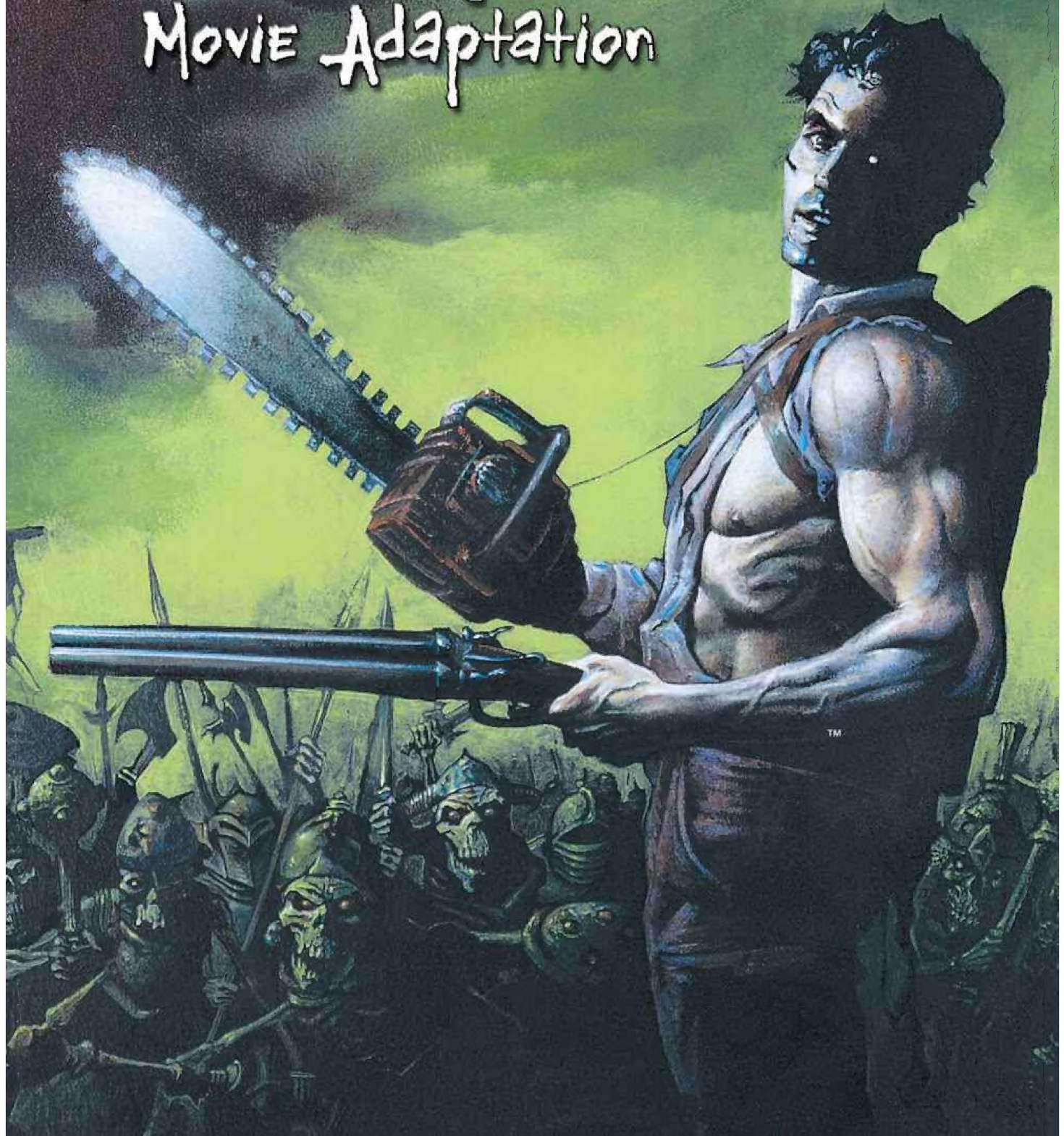


DYNAMITE 1

SAM RAIMI
IVAN RAIMI
JOHN BOLTON

ARMY OF DARKNESS™

Movie Adaptation



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Movie Adaptation

Screenplay by
SAM RAIMI & IVAN RAIMI,
RENAISSANCE PICTURES

*Adapted from the Original
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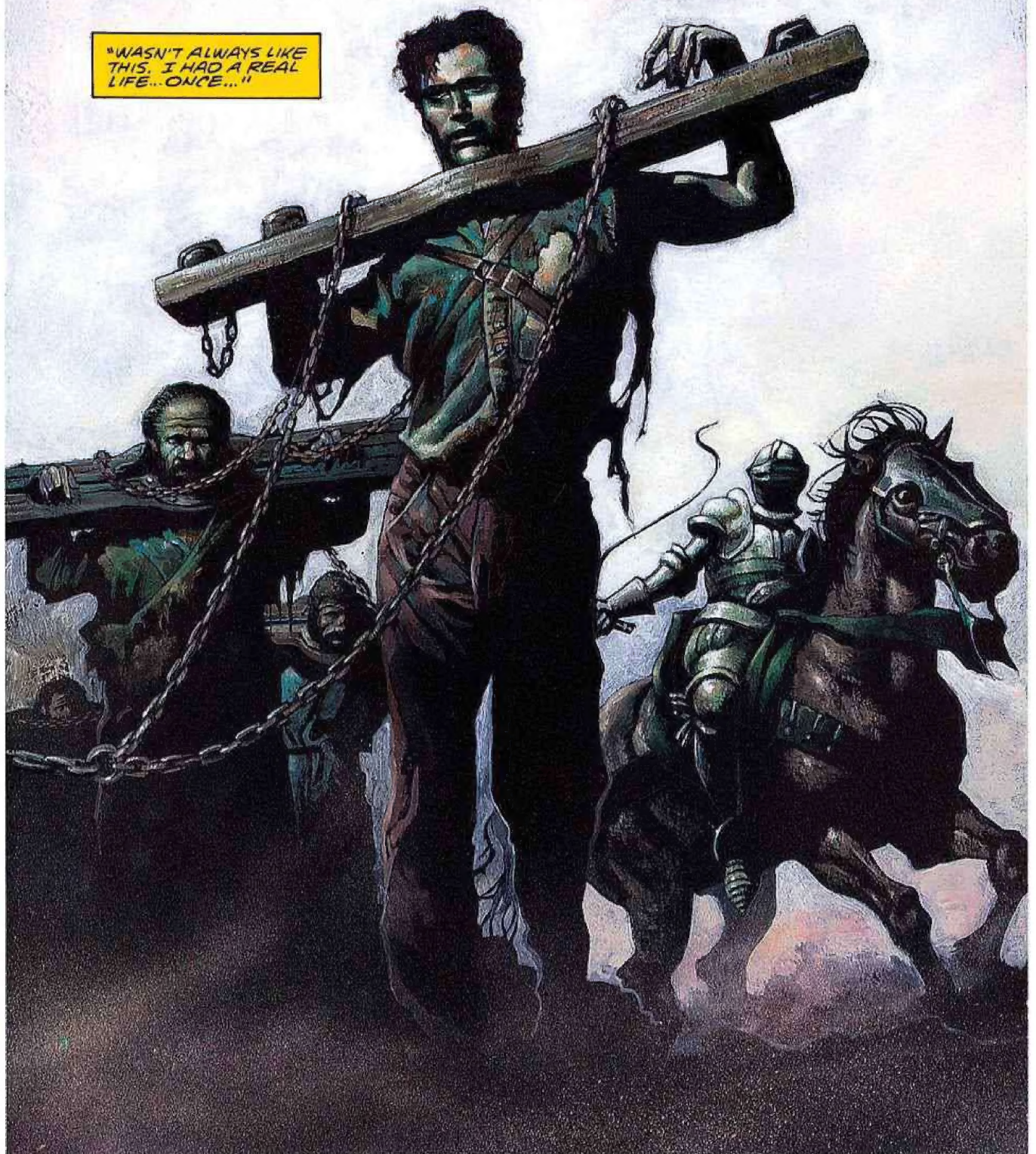
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"MY NAME IS ASH AND
I AM A SLAVE."

"CLOSE AS I CAN FIGURE
IT, THE YEAR IS 1300 A.D.,
AND I AM BEING DRAGGED
TO MY DEATH."

"WASN'T ALWAYS LIKE
THIS. I HAD A REAL
LIFE...ONCE..."





WHEN THE RENTAL AGENT SAID REMOTE CABIN, HE WASN'T KIDDING.

ACCORDING TO THIS MAP, THE PLACE IS JUST AHEAD.

"IT WAS HERE THAT I FIRST SET EYES UPON THAT DAMN BOOK."

"IT SEEMS THAT AN ARCH-
AEOLOGIST HAD COME
TO THIS REMOTE PLACE
TO TRANSLATE AND
STUDY HIS LATEST FIND.



"THE SUN SET,
ENDING THE LAST
NORMAL DAY
THAT I WOULD
EVER KNOW.



"NECRONOMICON EX MORTIS.
THE BOOK OF THE DEAD.

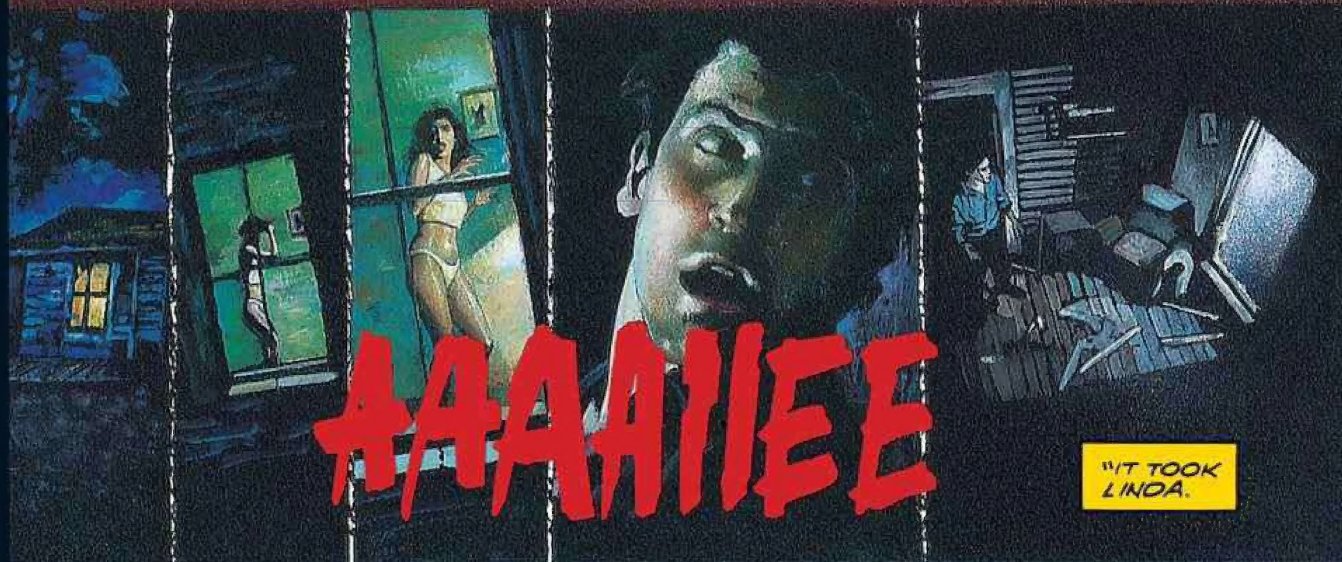


"BOUND IN HUMAN FLESH AND INKED IN BLOOD,
THE BOOK CONTAINED BIZARRE BURIAL RITES,
FUNERARY INCANTATIONS, AND INSTRUCTIONS
FOR DEMON RESURRECTION."



"IT WAS NEVER MEANT FOR
THE WORLD OF THE LIVING.

"THE BOOK AWOKE
SOMETHING DARK
IN THE WOODS."



"IT TOOK
LINDA.



"AND THEN IT
CAME FOR ME."



"IT GOT INTO MY
HAND AND IT
WENT BAD."



"I LOPPED IT
OFF AT THE
WRIST."

BZZZZ

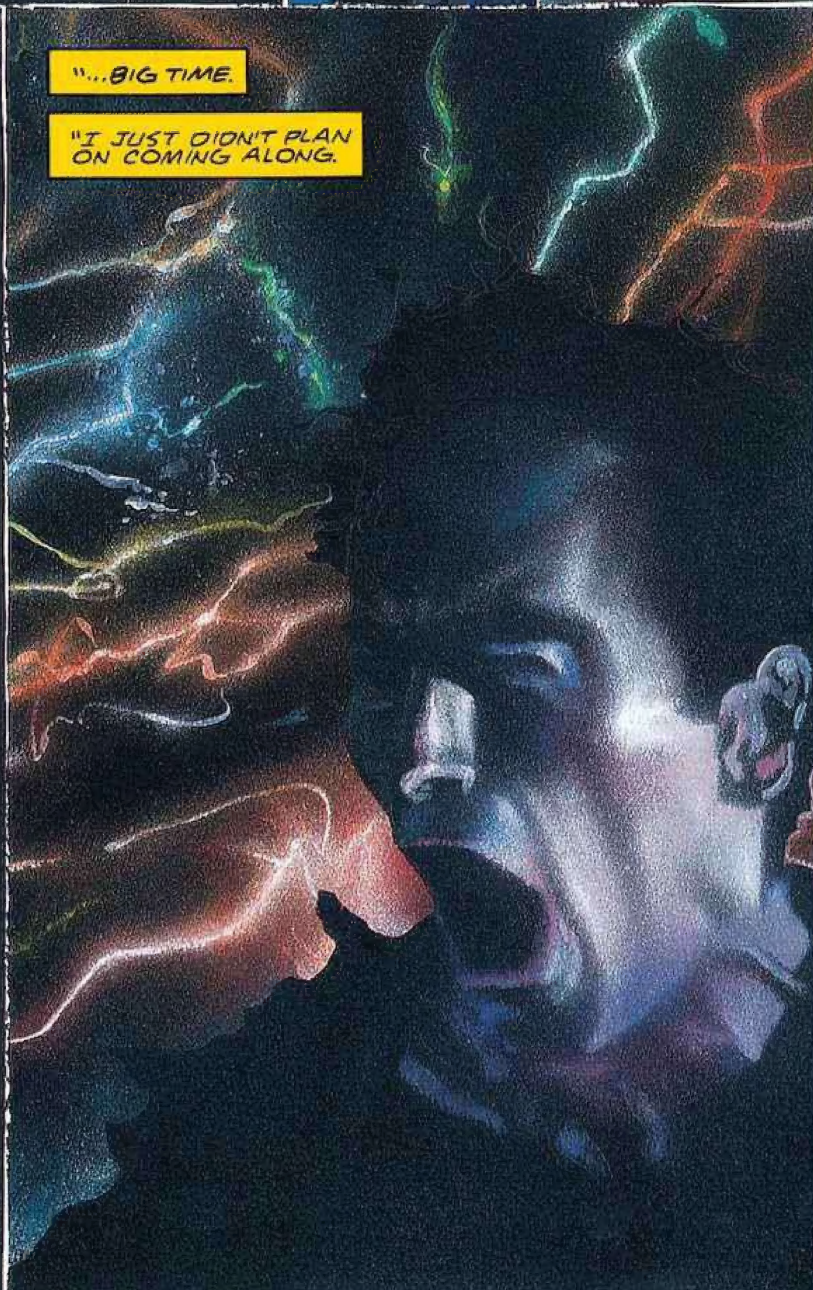


"I READ FROM A PASSAGE IN
THE BOOK THAT WAS SUPPOSED
TO OPEN A HOLE IN TIME THAT
WOULD SEND THE EVIL BACK.
AND IT WORKED..."



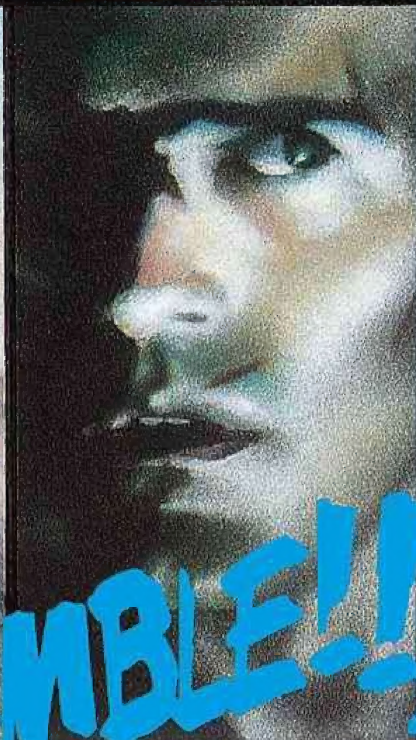
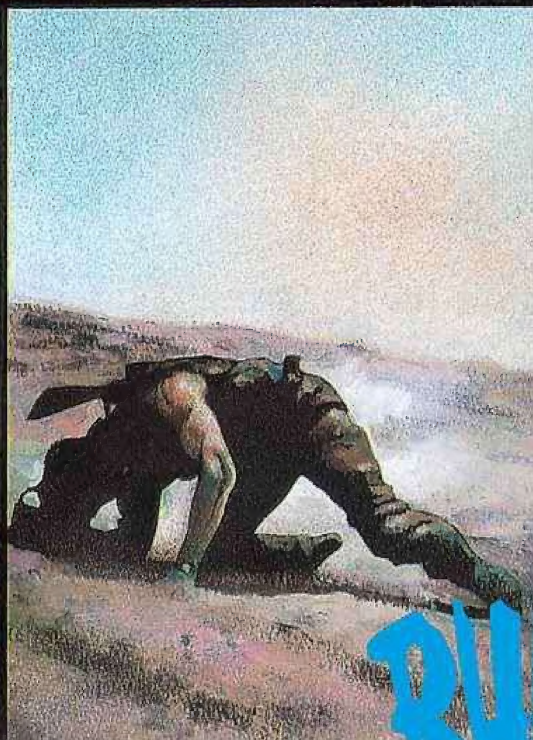
"...BIG TIME."

"I JUST DIDN'T PLAN
ON COMING ALONG."





"I HAD ARRIVED



RUMBLE!!!

"I GREETED MY BRAVE NEW WORLD."

STAND FAST, HELL-HOUND!

WHOA! JUST TAKE IT EASY, CHIEF. I DON'T KNOW HOW I GOT HERE AND I'M NOT LOOKING FOR ANY TROUBLE. THIS WHOLE THING IS JUST SOME BIG MISTAKE.

M'LORD! T'IS THE ONE WRITTEN OF IN THE NECRONOMICON...

"I GREETED MY BRAVE NEW WORLD."

STAND FAST, HELL-HOUND!

WHOA! JUST TAKE IT EASY, CHIEF. I DON'T KNOW HOW I GOT HERE AND I'M NOT LOOKING FOR ANY TROUBLE. THIS WHOLE THING IS JUST SOME BIG MISTAKE.

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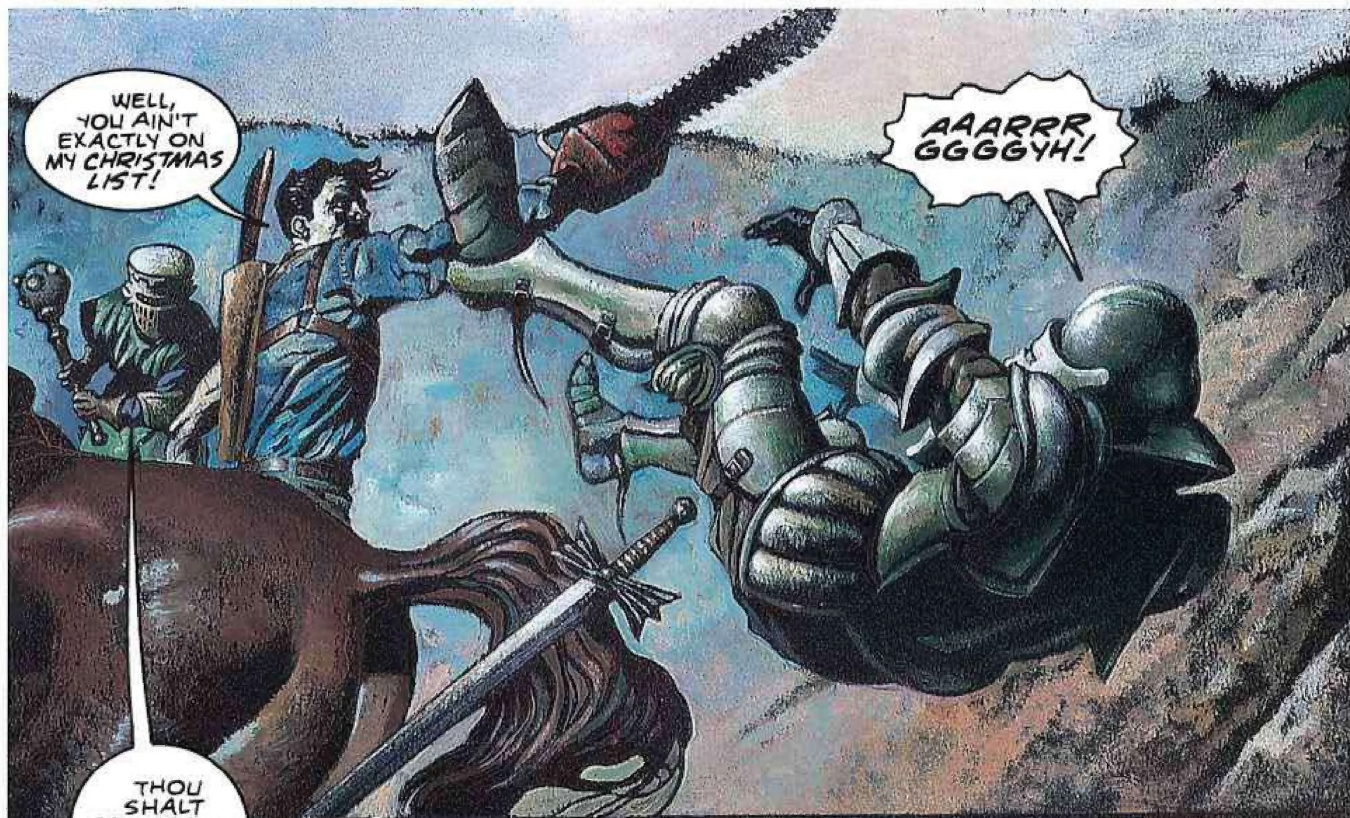
M'LORD! T'IS THE ONE WRITTEN OF IN THE NECRONOMICON...

HE WHO IS
PROPHESED TO FALL
FROM THE HEAVENS TO
DELIVER US FROM THE
TERROR OF THE
DEADITES.

I
THINK
NOT.

HE WHO IS
PROPHESED TO FALL
FROM THE HEAVENS TO
DELIVER US FROM THE
TERROR OF THE
DEADITES.

I
THINK
NOT.



WELL,
YOU AIN'T
EXACTLY ON
MY CHRISTMAS
LIST!

AAARRR
GGGGYH!

THOU
SHALT
PAY DEARLY
FOR THAT
BRASH
ACT!



MOVE
ALONG OR
TASTE THE
LASH, YOU
SCURRILOUS
DOGS!

"IF ONLY I COULD
REACH MY GOODS.
MY CHAINSAW
AND SHOTGUN..."



"...WERE ON A HORSE NOT
FIVE FEET FROM ME. IT
MIGHT AS WELL HAVE
BEEN MILES.

"I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I MARCHED, BUT I
DIDN'T HAVE TO COUNT. THE MAN WITH THE
WHIP SEEMED TO KEEP THE TIME WITH AN
INCESSANT CRACK, CRACK, CRACKING."



"AHEAD, THROUGH THE SHIMMERING
HEAT WAVES... A CASTLE. THERE LAY
MY SALVATION... OR TOMB.

"IF ONLY I COULD MAKE THEM SEE I WASN'T ONE OF THEIR ENEMIES. BUT THEY WEREN'T IN A MOOD TO LISTEN."



M'LORD ARTHUR, WHERE IS MY BROTHER? DID HE NOT RIDE WITH YOU?

AYE, M'LADY. AND HE FOUGHT VALIANTLY. ALAS, HE FELL IN BATTLE TO DUKE HENRY'S MEN.

"SHE WAS BROKE UP PRETTY BAD. SHE WAS GONNA GET SOME PAYBACK. SHE WAS GONNA DISH IT OUT TO THE CLOSEST AVAILABLE TARGET."



FOUL THING! A... A POX ON YOUR THROAT! THOU ART A MURDERER! A BLACK MURDERER!



SWEET-HEART, YOU GOT THE WRONG-- AHFFF!

SORRY

YOU SHALL PAY FOR YOUR SINS IN THE DEPTHS OF THE PIT!

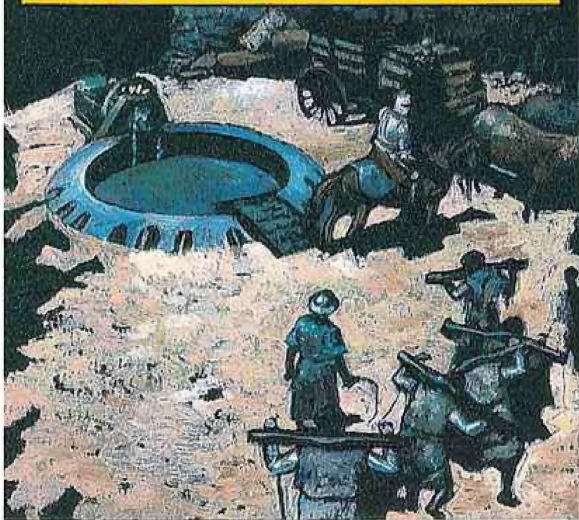


LADY, YOU GOT A BAD ATTITUDE AND A WORSE SET OF TEETH.

"SHE URGENTLY NEEDED TO SEE AN ORTHODONTIST."



"WE STOPPED BEFORE A STEEL-COVERED PIT. WHAT LAY DOWN THERE IN THE BLACKNESS, 'NEATH ITS STEEL COVER, GOD ONLY KNEW. AND HE COULD KEEP THE INFORMATION TO HIMSELF AS FAR AS I WAS CONCERNED."



YOU, SIR, ARE NOT ONE OF MY VASSALS. WHO ARE YOU?

WHO WANTS TO KNOW?

I AM HENRY THE RED, DUKE OF SHALE, LORD OF THE NORTHLANDS AND LEADER OF ITS PEOPLES.

YOU AIN'T LEADIN' BUT TWO THINGS RIGHT NOW, PAL. JACK AND SHIT. AND JACK LEFT TOWN.



"A TRUMPET SOUNDED. THE CROWD GREW QUIET AS LORD ARTHUR APPROACHED."

THERE IS AN EVIL THAT HAS AWAKENED IN THIS LAND, AND WHILST MY PEOPLE FIGHT FOR THEIR VERY SOULS AGAINST IT, YOU, HENRY THE RED, WAGE WAR ON US.

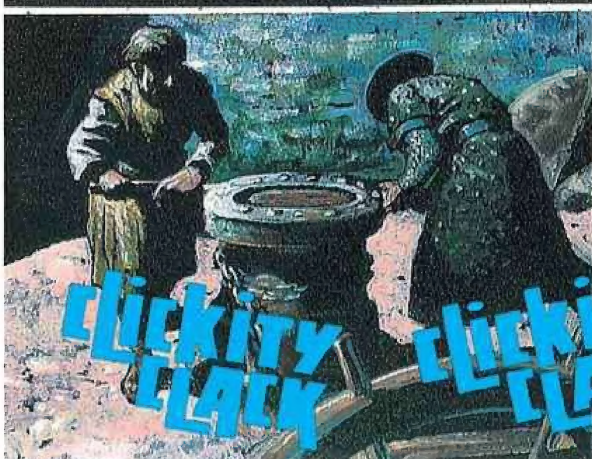
CHARLATAN! IT WAS YOU WHO FIRST TURNED YOUR SWORDS ON US. AND THIS EVIL HAS BEFOULED MY PEOPLE AS WELL!



YOUR PEOPLE ARE NO BETTER THAN THE FOUL CORRUPTION THAT LIES IN THE BOWELS OF THAT PIT! MAY GOD HAVE MERCY UPON YOUR SOULS.

TO THE PIT WITH THE BASTARDS!

TOMORROW, WHEN THEY HAUL YOU OUT, I'LL MAKE DICE FROM YOUR BONES!



clickity clack clickity clack



"IT WAS THE
SMELL THAT
HIT ME FIRST...
THE STICKY,
SWEET STENCH
OF DEATH...
A LOAD OF
IT."

"THEY CALLED FOR
THE FIRST MAN."

AAAAGH!

"ALL I KEPT THINKING
WAS: 'I'M GLAD IT AIN'T
ME DOWN THERE. I'M
GLAD IT AIN'T ME.'"

YER NEXT!
IN YA GO, YA
BLACKARD.

sliiiiip
slup! qqvip!
qqump!

KASPOSH
NO NO NO
AAAAA



YA GOTTA LISTEN TO ME! YOU GOT THE WRONG GUY. I NEVER EVEN SAW THESE ASSWIPE BEFORE IN MY LIFE.



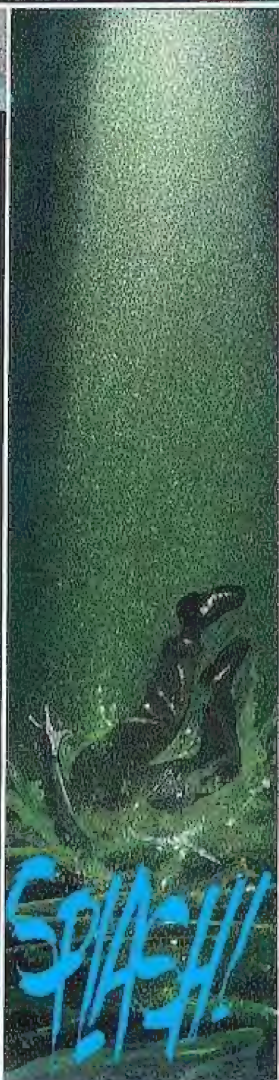
GO SWIFTLY TO HELL, THOU MURDEROUS COWARD!

Swoosh



"EVERYTHING GOT FUZZY AND WARM."

"MY KNEES TURNED TO JELLO."



Splash



"I WASN'T UP SHIT CREEK..."



"...I WAS KNEE-DEEP IN IT, AND I HAD A FEELING I WASN'T ALONE."



"I COULDN'T QUITE SEE IT THROUGH THE MURKY WATER, BUT MAYBE IT WAS BETTER THAT WAY. I COULD FULLY CONCENTRATE ON CROWNING. SHE HAD BLOWN BOTH BALLAST TANKS AND I WAS TAKING IN WATER.



"THING JUST WANTED TO KEEP SQUIRMING, BUT I PUT AN END TO THAT NOISE. YOU PICKED THE WRONG ONE, BABY. UH HUH.



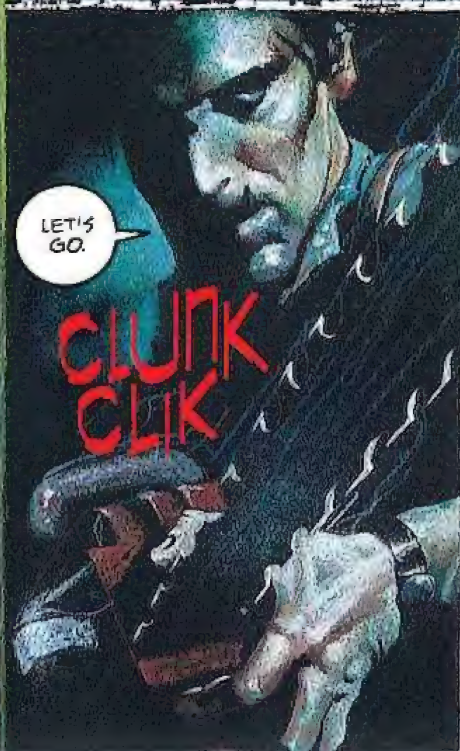
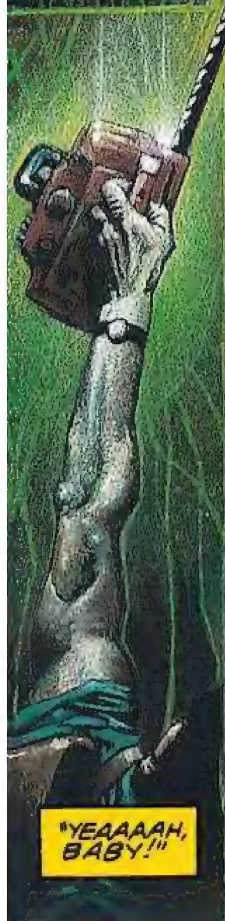




YOUR
BLADE!

"YEAH, MY OWN
LITTLE EXCALIBUR.
IF ONLY I COULD
GET TO IT."

censored



LET'S
GO.

CLUNK
CLIK

"YEAHAH,
BABY!"



...UH?...

"THEY WERE VICIOUS
FIGHTERS...BUT I'M
FROM A PRETTY
VIOLENT CIVILIZATION
MYSELF."

THOMP

MEET
MY FRIEND
BUZZ.

BUZZ

"THERE WERE
TOO MANY.
MAYBE I COULD
CUT THROUGH
'EM BEFORE
THE SPIKES
GOT ME."

"YEAH AND MAYBE
I'M A CHINESE
JET PILOT."

clickity
clack
clickity
clack

KISS
OFF

"THE CROWD BACKED AWAY AS I CLIMBED UP. I GUESS THEY'D NEVER SEEN ANYTHING CRAWL OUT OF THERE ALIVE AND THEY WEREN'T ABOUT TO CROSS THE FIRST GUY THAT DID."

NEXT
ONE OF YOU
PRIMATES
TOUCH ME
...I'LL KILL
YOU.

HENRY,
GET ON
THOSE
HORSES
AND GET
OUT OF
HERE!

HOW DARE YOU
ISSUE ORDERS AT
MY CASTLE?

EVEN IF YOU ARE
THE PROMISED ONE.

FOR THAT
ARROGANCE,
I SHALL
SEE THEE
DEAD.

BAANG
CHINK

THIS IS MY
BOOM STICK. IT'S
A TWELVE GAUGE,
DOUBLE-BARRELLED
REMINGTON, 5-MART'S
TOP OF THE LINE.

BAAAANG

THIS
BABY WAS
MADE IN GRAND
RAPIDS, MICHIGAN.
IT RETAILS
FOR ABOUT A
HUNDRED NINETY-
NINE, NINETY-
FIVE, WALNUT
STOCK. COBALT
BLUE STEEL...

...AND A HAIR TRIGGER.

"ONCE THE SCATTERSHOT SENT THE THING TUMBLING BACK DOWN INTO THE PIT, THEY STARTED TO SEE THINGS MY WAY."

HAIL TO HE WHO HAS COME TO LEAD US AGAINST THE DEADITES! HAIL!

HE TRULY IS THE PROMISED ONE!

IT IS HE! THE ONE WRITTEN OF IN THE BOOK!

NOW, LET'S TALK ABOUT HOW I GET BACK HOME.

"AS EVENING FELL, I WAS TAKEN TO THE RUINS OF AN ANCIENT TEMPLE. THERE I WAITED WHILE THE WISEMEN CONFERRED AS TO MY FATE."

"I TRIED TO MAKE THE BEST OF IT."

A LITTLE MORE GROG. AND ANOTHER LEG OF THAT BURP-MUTTON, TOO!

I PRAY THEE TO FORGIVE ME. I BELIEVED THEE ONE OF HENRY'S MEN.

FIRST YA WANNA KILL ME, NOW YA WANNA KISS ME.

BLOW.

THE WISEMEN HAVE RETURNED FROM THEIR CONSUL.

WELL, WHAT IS IT? CAN YOU SEND ME BACK OR NOT.

ONLY THE NECRONOMICON HAS THE POWER. AN UNHOLY BOOK WHICH WE ALSO REQUIRE.

IT CONTAINS PASSAGES THAT CAN DISPEL THE EVIL AND SEND YOU BACK TO YOUR OWN TIME.

ONLY YOU, THE PROMISED ONE, CAN QUEST FOR IT.



WHY SHOULD I GO AND GET THIS BOOK? SOUNDS LIKE A JOB THAT ONE OF YOUR TIN CAN BOYS SHOULD BE DOING.

MANY VALIANT MEN HAVE TRIED. NONE HAVE RETURNED.

ONLY YOU CAN ENTER THE CEMETERY WHERE THE NECRONOMICON LIES.

ONLY YOU CAN RETRIEVE THE BOOK FROM ITS SACRED CRADLE. SO IT IS WRITTEN.

YEAH, WELL, I GOT MY OWN PLAN. IT'S CALLED STAYIN' ALIVE.



"AT FIRST, NOBODY NOTICED HOW CLOSE THE OLD WOMAN WAS TO THE FLAMES. SHE WENT UP LIKE A STACK OF DRIED KINDLING."



DEAR GOD, HELP ME!

"AN INHUMAN SHRIEK YODELED UP OUT OF HER PARCHED THROAT. THEN SHE COLLAPSED."

KRAKLE
WHOOOOO



POP!

I'VE SEEN THIS BEFORE. IT'S A TRICK. GET AN AXE.

"WE WERE HIT WITH AN ICY WIND. THE BURNED BODY SHUDDERED, THEN FLOATED UPWARD."



YOU SHALL DIE! YOU SHALL NEVER RETRIEVE THE NECRONOMICON! WE SHALL FEAST UPON THE STRANGER'S SOUL! AND THEN THE SOUL OF MAN!

WE RUSH THE BITCH ON THREE. ONE... TWO...

"BUT SHE WASN'T GONNA WAIT AROUND. SHE HEAVED AT A MASSIVE STONE PILLAR."



"LIKE DOMNOS, THEY CAME TUMBLING DOWN TOWARDS THE GIRL. SHE WAS A WRITE-OFF. ONLY AN IDIOT WOULD TRY TO SAVE HER NOW."



KRABOM KRABOM

DEAR GOD,
HELP ME!
HELP--



"I'VE BEEN CALLED WORSE."



SQUISH!

"THE PLACE WAS COMING DOWN AROUND ME LIKE A HOUSE OF CARDS WHEN THE SHE-BITCH GRABBED ME. IT WAS TRYIN' TO SQUEEZE A LITTLE CIDER OUTTA MY ADAM'S APPLE. I COULD FEEL MY WIND-PIPE ABOUT TO BURST."



EEEAGGH...

"I APPLIED A LITTLE LEVERAGE.
THE THING WAS STRONG, BUT
IT'D BE ANOTHER SIX HUNDRED
YEARS BEFORE IT'D HEAR
THE WORD 'JUDO.'"



HIHI-
YAAAH!

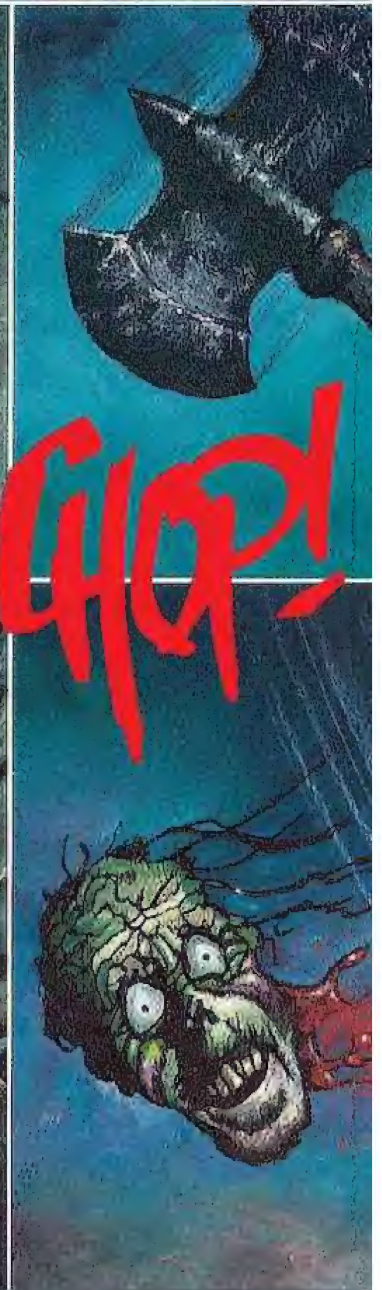
"THE PILLAR MADE FUNNY-
PASTE OF ITS LEGS."



"BUT SHE
KEPT COMIN'.."



"...FOR MY MALE PACKAGE."





YOU SHALL
NEVER
RETURN TO
YOUR OWN
TIME! YOU
SHALL--



--DIE!

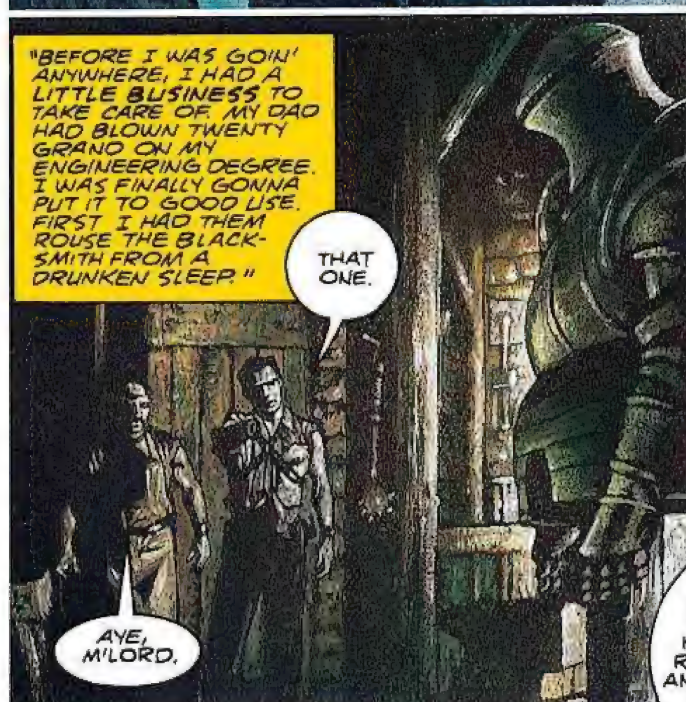
"IT WAS A NICE PUNT, SPIRAL
GOOD HANG TIME."



"WE STOOD THERE FOR A LONG
WHILE, EVEN AFTER WE LOST
SIGHT OF THE THING, WE COULD
STILL HEAR ITS MOCKING LAUGH."



I'LL
GET
YOUR
DAMN
BOOK.



"BEFORE I WAS GOIN'
ANYWHERE, I HAD A
LITTLE BUSINESS TO
TAKE CARE OF. MY DAD
HAD BLOWN TWENTY
GRAND ON MY
ENGINEERING DEGREE.
I WAS FINALLY GONNA
PUT IT TO GOOD USE.
FIRST I HAD THEM
ROUSE THE BLACK-
SMITH FROM A
DRUNKEN SLEEP."

THAT
ONE.

AYE,
M'LORD.



GONNA NEED
SOME HEAVY-
DUTY SPRINGS...
RATCHET... SOME
KIND OF TENSION
RELEASE TRIGGER,
AND THE STRONGEST
CABLE YOU GOT.

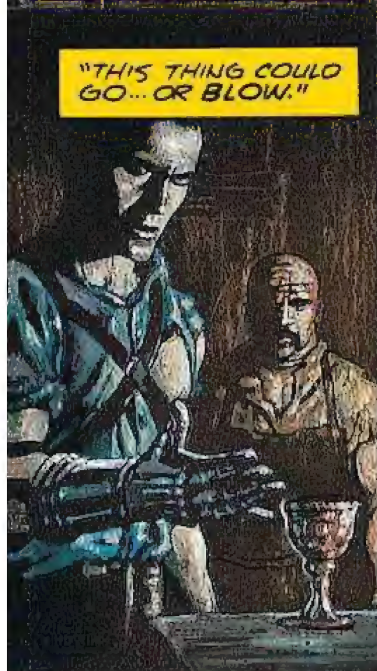


I HAVE NO KEN OF
SUCH DEVICES, M'LORD,
BUT INSTRUCT ME AND
I SHALL CRAFT
THEM FOR YOU.

"THE BLACKSMITH WAS
AN ARTIST WITH THE
ANVIL."



"I RATCHETED UP THE SPRING TENSION AS FAR AS I DARED, AND THEN A LITTLE MORE."



"THIS THING COULD GO... OR BLOW."

RA KLANNING!

GROOVY.



"I WORKED LATE INTO THE NIGHT. THE SPRING ASSEMBLY WAS JAMMIN' UP A LITTLE, BUT IT WASN'T NOTHING THAT A LITTLE OX GREASE COULDN'T FIX. THE HEAT FROM THE BLACKSMITH'S FURNACE WAS MAKING ME A LITTLE RAMMY."



"THAT'S WHEN SHE CAME IN."

THE WISEMEN SAY THAT THOU ART THE PROMISED ONE. 'TIS SAID THAT THOU SHALT JOURNEY FOR THE BOOK TO HELP US.

THE ONLY REASON I'M GOING FOR THE BOOK...



...IS TO GET BACK HOME. WHAT ARE YA DOIN' HERE, ANYWAY?



I... WANTED TO TELL YOU THAT ALL OF MY HOPES AND PRAYERS GO WITH YOU.

I NEED YOUR PRAYERS LIKE I NEED TUBERCULOSIS. IF I STICK AROUND HERE LONG ENOUGH, I'LL PROBABLY GET IT ANYWAY. AND GOD KNOWS WHAT OTHER VIRUSES.

VERY WELL, M'LORD.

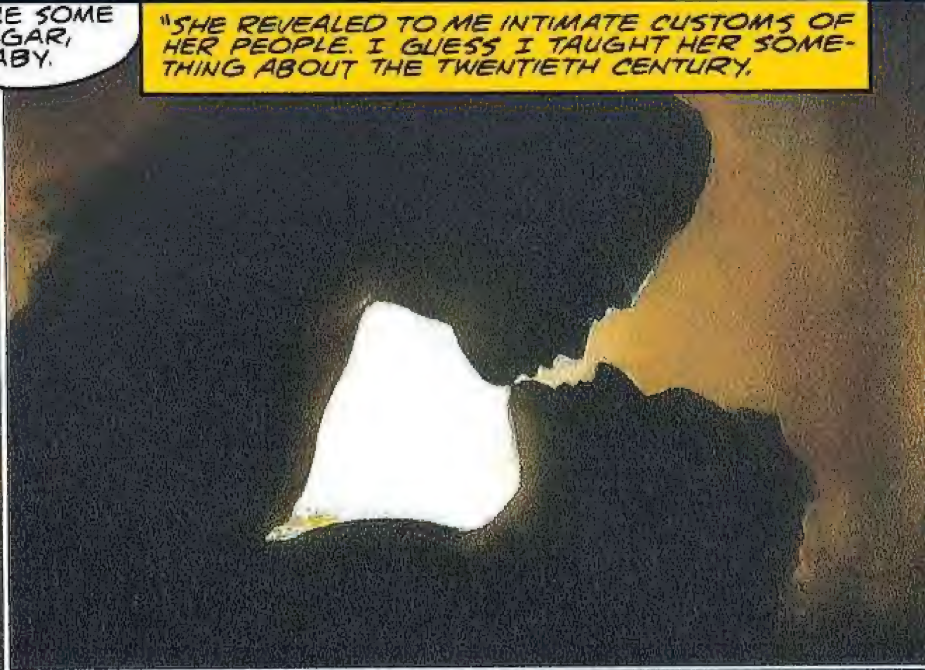
I SHALL LEAVE YOU, THEN.



"I GRABBED
HER LITTLE
WAIST AND
MASHED
HER UP
AGAINST ME."

GIMME SOME
SUGAR,
BABY.

"SHE REVEALED TO ME INTIMATE CUSTOMS OF
HER PEOPLE. I GUESS I TAUGHT HER SOME-
THING ABOUT THE TWENTIETH CENTURY."



"IN HER ARMS, I WAS CONTENT.
BUT I DIDN'T BELONG HERE.
MY WORLD WAS ONE OF INDOOR
PLUMBING AND TRAFFIC LIGHTS,
FAST FOOD AND INSTANT
REPLAY. HER PRIMITIVE INTELLECT
COULD NEVER GRASP THESE
MIGHTY ADVANCES. BUT I'D DO
ANYTHING TO GET BACK TO IT."

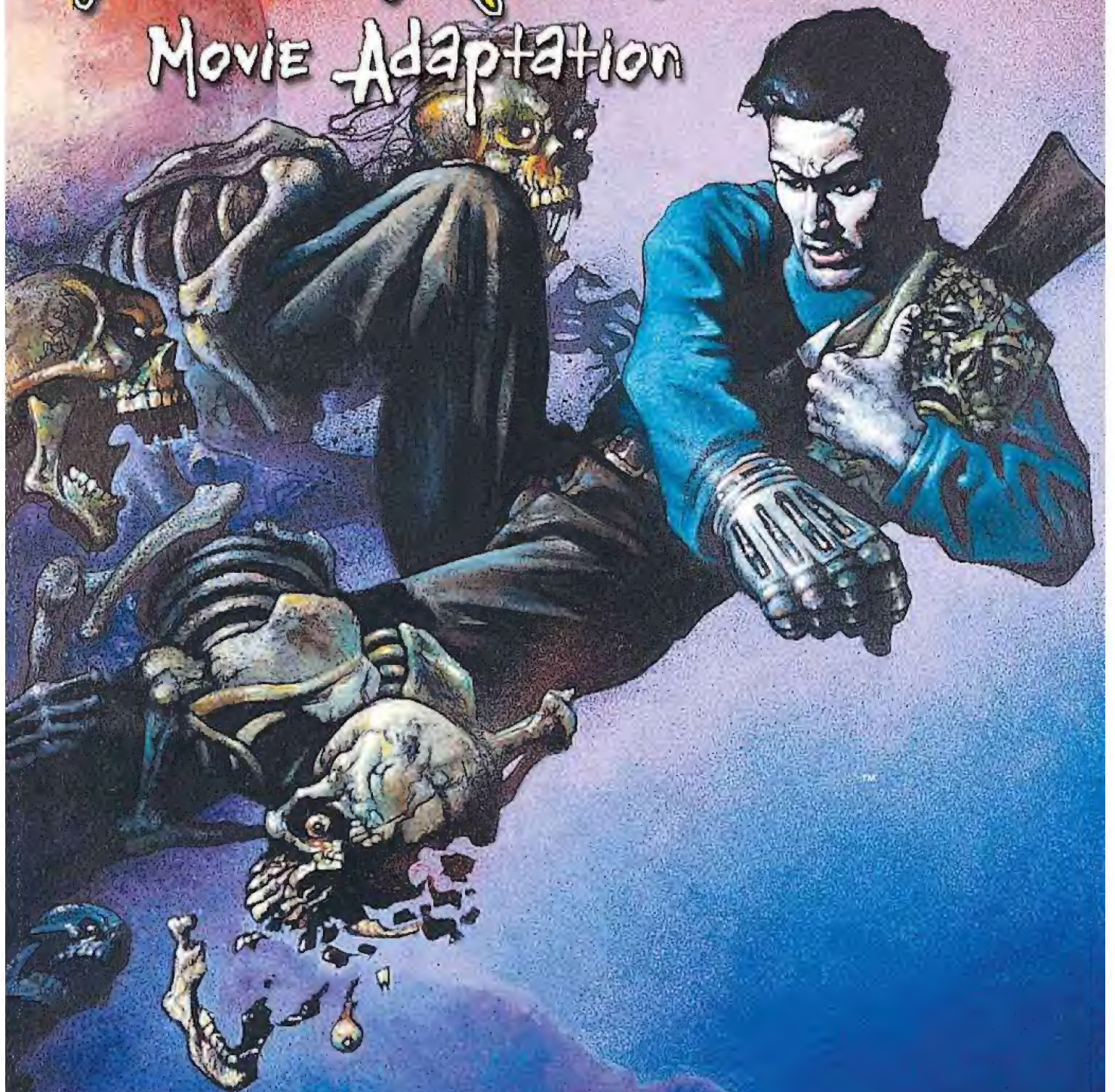
"AS I LOOKED OUT OVER THE LAND
WHERE I WOULD JOURNEY, I
TREMBLED AT WHAT HORRORS MIGHT
WAIT. I DIDN'T TELL HER OF MY FEARS,
BUT SOMEHOW SHE SHARED THEM
WITH ME. I WOULD QUEST FOR THE
NECRONOMICON AT FIRST LIGHT."

DYNAMITE 2

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IVAN RAIMI
JOHN BOLTON

ARMY OF DARKNESS

Movie Adaptation



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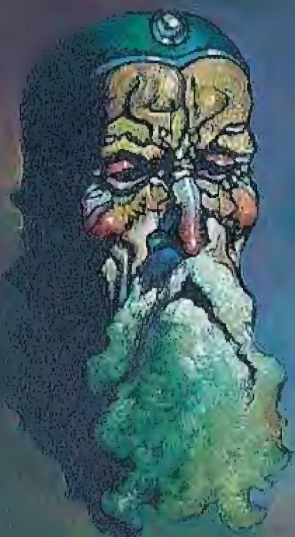
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DYNAMITE ENTERTAINMENT

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JUAN COLLADO
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RICH YOUNG
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CREATIVE DIRECTOR
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ONLY WITH THE
NECROMOMICON
CAN I SEND YOU BACK
TO YOUR TIME, WHEN
YOU REMOVE IT FROM
THE CEMETERY, *RECITE*
THESE WORDS:
"CLATOO VERATA
NICTO." REPEAT THEM
EXACTLY: "CLATOO...."

"THE OLD GUY KEPT
YAB, YAB, YABERIN' AT
ME. AFTER A WHILE,
I JUST TUNED HIM OUT.
YOU KNOW HOW YOU
DO THAT?"



© 1992



"AS I RODE FOR THE BOOK, I COULDA SWORN THERE WAS SOMETHING AT MY SIX."



"I PUT IT IN HIGH GEAR, ALWAYS CHECKING BEHIND ME. THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T SEE THE BRANCH."

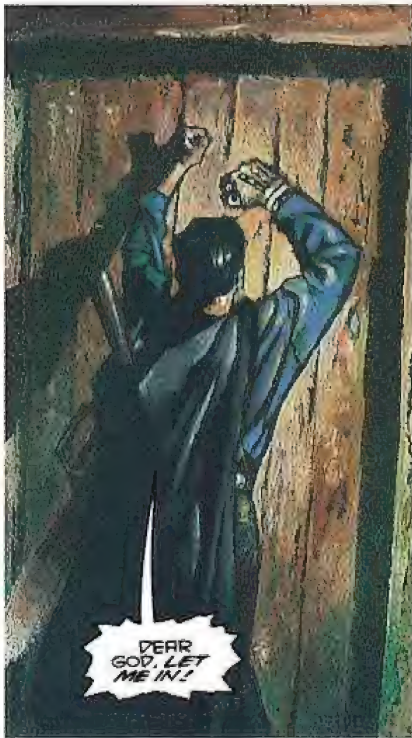


HORSE...
WHERE...

"I HAD HIT HARD. MY EYES WERE MAKING SILLY SPOTS AND I WAS ABOUT TO HEAVE RIGHTEOUS CHUNKS. BUT THE THING IN THE WOODS WAS GETTIN' CLOSER."



"JUST MAYBE I COULD MAKE THE MILL."



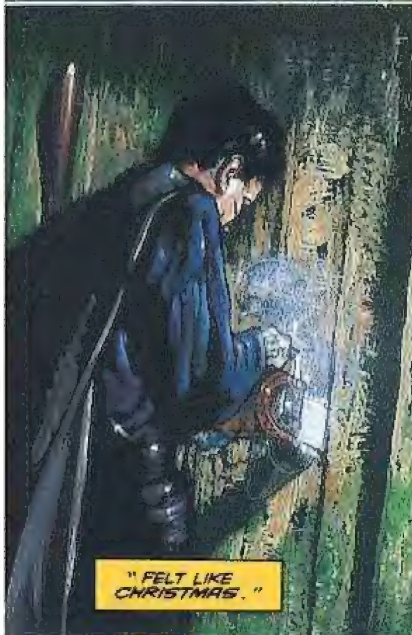
DEAR
GOD, LET
ME IN!



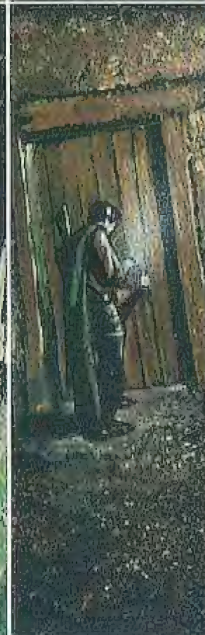
"THE THING
IN THE WOODS
WAS CLOSING
FAST."



"SUDDENLY
THAT OL' SAW
FELT REAL
GOOD IN MY
STEEL HAND."



"FELT LIKE
CHRISTMAS."



"ALL I HAD TO
DO WAS GET..."

BUZZZZ!



"...INSIDE."



" I WAITED. "

" I NEEDED A GOOD PLAN,
BUT THINKING WASN'T MY
STRONG SUIT, SO I JUST
SAT AND WAITED. FIGURED
I'D GET THE BOOK IN THE
MORNING. "



WHAZAT ?



" THE THING WAS STILL
OUT THERE. I LISTENED
SO HARD I COULD
HEAR MYSELF SWEAT.
AND MY SWEAT STANK,
BUT GOOD. "



" MAYBE I
COULDN'T SEE
IT, BUT I WAS
GONNA
DELIVER BOTH
BARRELS. "





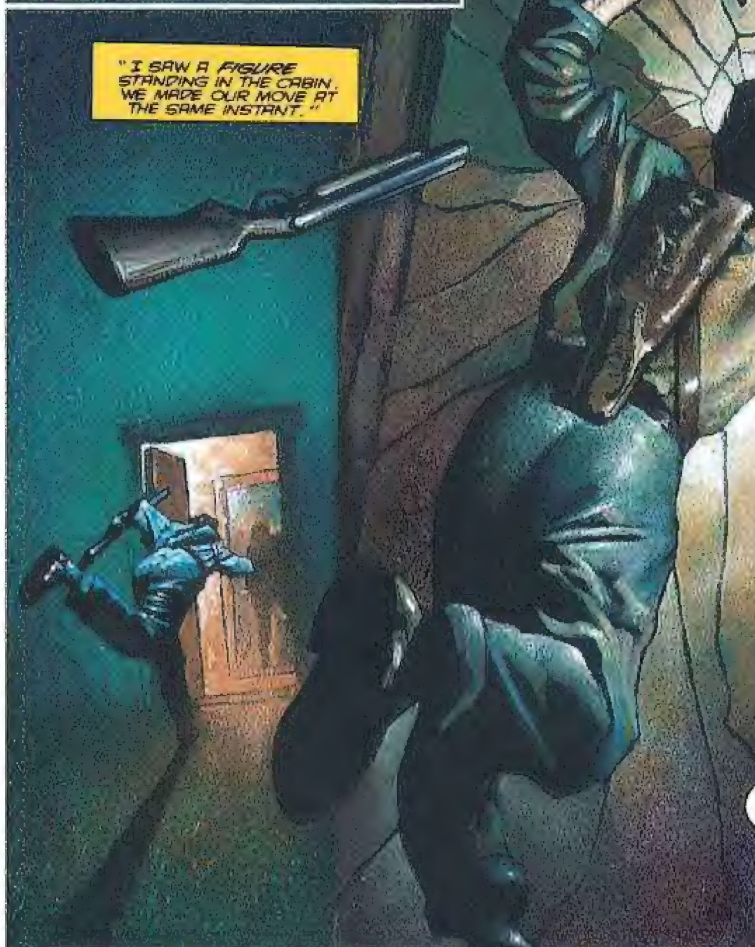
"IT WAS JUST THE HORSE."

"HORSES ARE ONLY GOOD FOR TWO THINGS. DOG FOOD AND ELMO'S GLUE."

GOOD BOY.



WHAZAT?



"I SAW A FIGURE STANDING IN THE CABIN. WE MADE OUR MOVE AT THE SAME INSTANT."



OoOoFfF!

KRA
SS



MUSTA JUST BEEN MY REFLECTION.



"I WAS IN NEED OF A SHAVE, A HOT SHOWER, YEAH, AND A PHILLY CHEESESTEAK WOULD SLIDE DOWN PRETTY EASY ABOUT NOW, TOO."



KRAK!
AAAA...

"...WITH A JUMBO ROOT BEER...AND FRIES."

"I WAS THINKING MAYBE
THEY'D ALREADY GIVEN AWAY
MY JOB AT S MART. I WAS
WONDERING IF I'D EVER SEE
MY GIRL AGAIN, WONDERING
IF I'D EVER GET HOME.
LIKE E.T. EXCEPT I DON'T
HAVE NO DAMN CANDY BITS
NAMED AFTER ME. POINT IS,
I NEVER SAW THE LITTLE
BASTARDS COMING."



"THE LITTLE
ME'S. THOSE
WEE LITTLE
ME-ME'S."

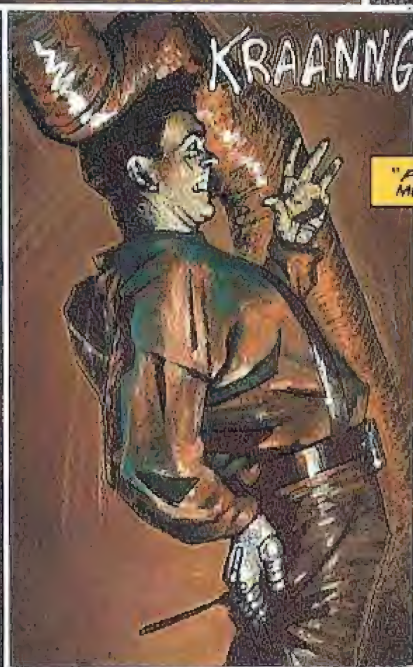




"FOUL LITTLE THINGS, SPAWNED FROM MY REFLECTION."



"THEY PULLED A LITTLE RAMBO."



KRAANNNGG!

"FLAB-JACKIN' ME FROM BEHIND."

SOMEONE STUCK A FORK IN MY BUTT. WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?!





COME ON
OUT GUYS, I'M
NOT GONNA
HURT YA.

I...I'VE
GOT SOME
LITTLE
PRESENTS
HERE FOR
YA.

FOOM!

"THE
LIGHTS
WENT OUT.
I MUSTA
TAKEN A
FALL."



"WHEN I AWOKE,
I SAW THE LITTLE
HE-ME'S ABOVE."



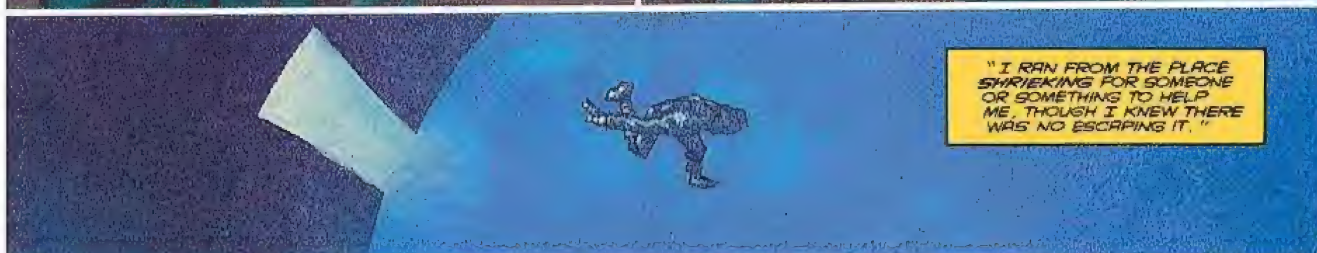
"THEY WERE GONNA
DROP ONE OF THEIR
FILTHY SELVES DOWN
MY THROAT."



"I WASN'T GONNA OPEN MY
MOUTH, NO SIR, THAT WAS MY
PLAN, BUT THEY PLUGGED MY
BLOW HOLES, I WAS SUFFO-
CRATING, I COULD FEEL MY
LUNGS, BEGGING FOR AIR."



"THE LITTLE
HE-ME TOOK
HIS DIVE."



"THE FILTHY THING
WAS GROWING RIGHT
OUTTA ME."

ARRGH!

HOPPA.
HOPPA.
HOPPA.

"I COULD FEEL ALL
MY BAD PARTS BEING
DRAWN AWAY INTO
THIS THING. ALL MY
NASTY HABITS, MY
FILTHY DESIRES... THEY
WERE NOW THE STUFF
OF THIS ANTI-ME."



"AND THEN THERE WERE
TWO. WHEN I MOVED, HE
MOVED. WHEN I'D FREEZE,
HE'D ANTI-FREEZE."



WHAT
ARE YOU?

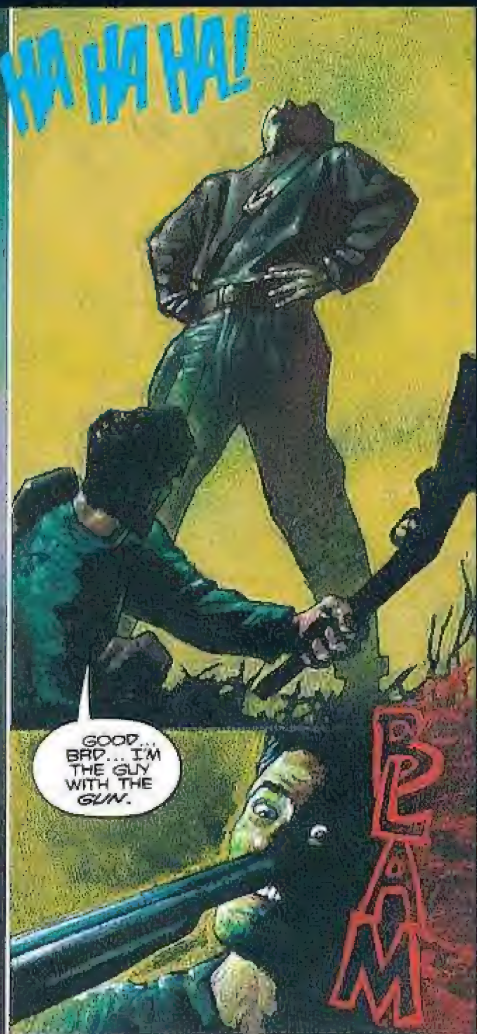


I'M
THE BAD
ASH... AND
YOU'RE ...



GOODY
LITTLE TWO
SHOES... GOODY
LITTLE TWO
SHOES.

SMACK!



HA HA HA!

GOODY
BAD... I'M
THE GUY
WITH THE
GUN.

BLAM!



"THERE'S NO DOIN' A
HALFWAY JOB."

"IT'S A NASTY BIT
OF BUSINESS
WHEN YOU FINISH
OFF A DEADITE."



"YA CUT 'EM..."



"AN' BURY
'EM DEEP."



HERE'S
YOUR NEW
HOME



THUMP
THUMP







WHOA.
WRONG
BOOK.

"THE ONE ON
THE RIGHT
SMELLED LIKE
ANOTHER
PHONEY. I
REACHED FOR
THE BOOK IN
THE MIDDLE. IT
LOOKED TO
BE THE GENUINE
ARTICLE."



GRRRR!

CHOMP!



GET
OUTTA
HERE!

"IT FLEW OFF
LIKE AN ANGRY
BAT..."



FLAPPITY
FLAP!

"... THEN SWOOPED
BACK FOR MORE."



"IT PECKED AT
MY EYES AND
TRIED TO BUILD
A NEST IN MY
HAIR. AS BATS
WILL DO."

LEAVE
ME BE!



"I SLAMMED IT
DOWN UPON
THE STONE SLAB
UNTIL THE THING
WAS FINALLY
QUIET."

"JUST TO BE SURE,
I SNAPPED ITS LOUSY
SPINE. IT GAVE TWO
QUICK JERKS AND
THAT WAS IT. I
TURNED TO THE FINAL
BOOK."

"I TRIED TO RECALL THE WISEMAN'S WORDS."

CLATOO!
VERATA!
UH...

"I SUSPECTED THAT IT MIGHT BE AN 'N' WORD."

NECKTIE?
NOODLE...?

"I'D MAKE DO."

CLATOO!
VERATA!
NE-COLASH!
COUGH!

"ALL AROUND ME THE EARTH HEAVED."

HEY,
WAIT!

I SAID
THE WORDS!
I DID!

"GRAVESTONES TREMBLED AND WERE THRUST FROM THE GROUND. FROM THE WIDENING CRACKS IN THE EARTH I HEARD THE ANGRY SCREAMS YODELING UP FROM DEAD THROATS. I HAD SCREWED UP RONALD. I HAD AWAKENED THE EVIL DEAD."

MEANWHILE, AT THE CASTLE...

I SENSE MY BELOVED IS IN DANGER.

WISEMAN,
WHAT...?

A SHIFT IN THE SUPER-NATURAL TIDES, M'LORD. SOMETHING HAS STARRERD THE DARK FORCES.



LIGHTNING
LASHED DOWN
FROM THE
SKIES...



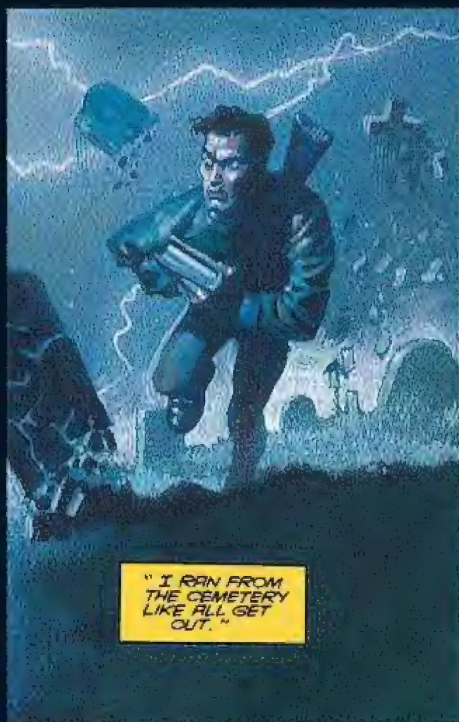
FROM COLD
EARTH, ROTTED
FLESH TOOK
FORM.



MUSCLES
PULLED UPON
DEAD BONES.



FROM THIS... IT WAS BORN.



"I RAN FROM THE CEMETERY LIKE HELL, GET OUT."



UH-H!



"I COULD FEEL THE COLD BONY DIGITS TERRIFYING INTO MY LEG. I OPENED MY MOUTH TO SCREAM!"

RIIIPPI!

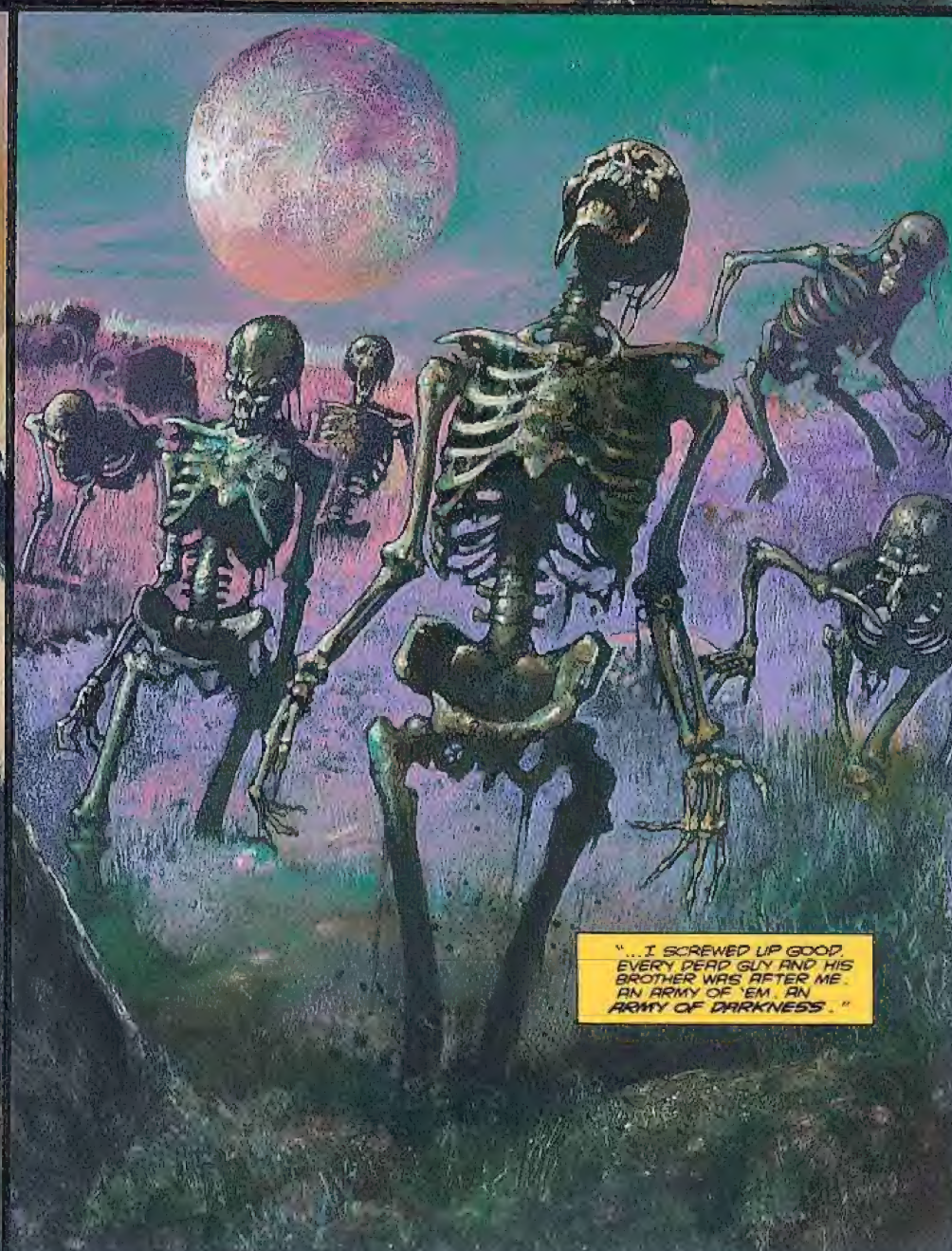


A-GAK!



MURF! MURF!!

SNAP







"WINGED SHE-
BITCHES. COMING
OUTTA THE SOUTH.
SOUTHWEST COMIN'
STRAIGHT FER ME."

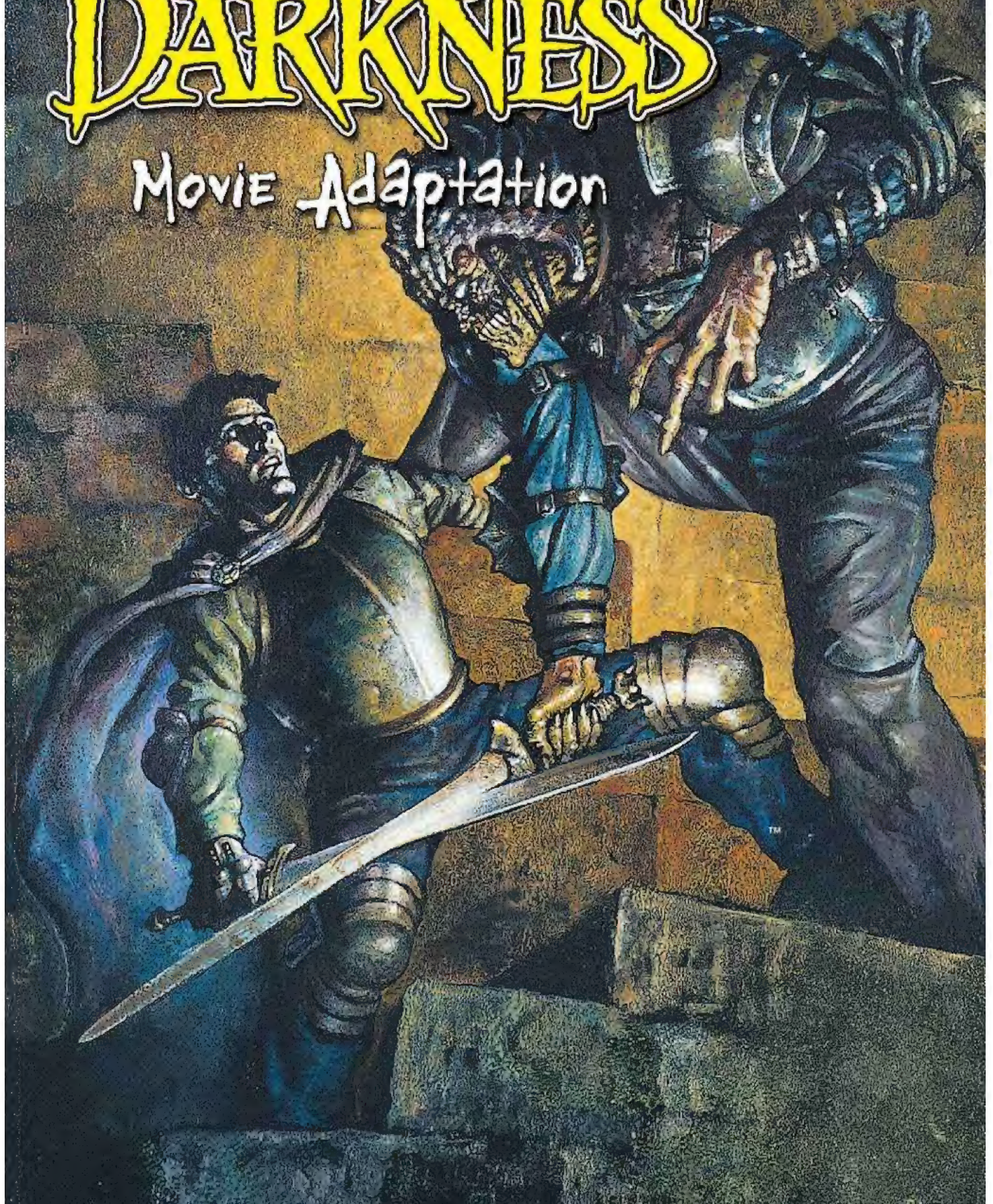
EEEEEE! EEEEE!

ARMY OF DARKNESS

Movie Adaptation

DYNAMITE 3

SAM RAIMI
IVAN RAIMI
JOHN BOLTON



ARMY OF DARKNESS

Movie Adaptation

Screenplay by

SAM RAIMI & IVAN RAIMI,
RENAISSANCE PICTURES

*Adapted from the Original
Screenplay and Illustrated by*

JOHN BOLTON

Letterer

PAT BROSEAU

Original Series Editor

MIKE RICHARDSON

DYNAMITE



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DYNAMITE ENTERTAINMENT

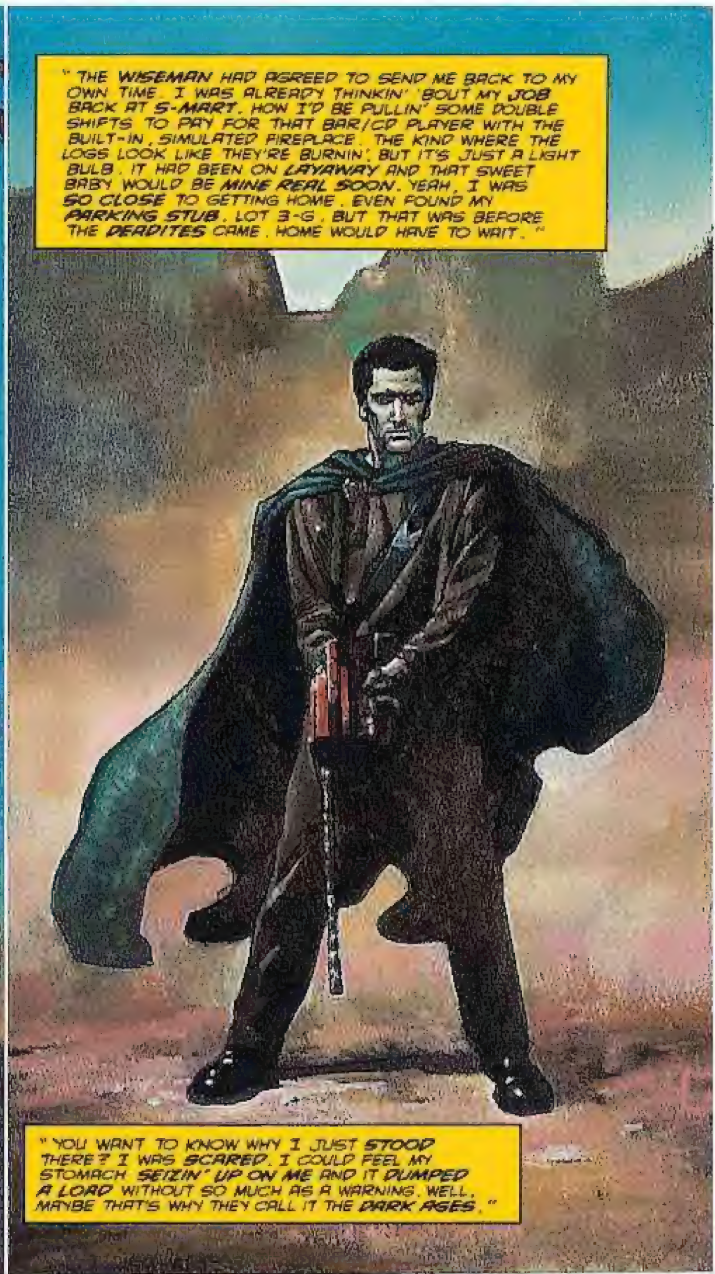
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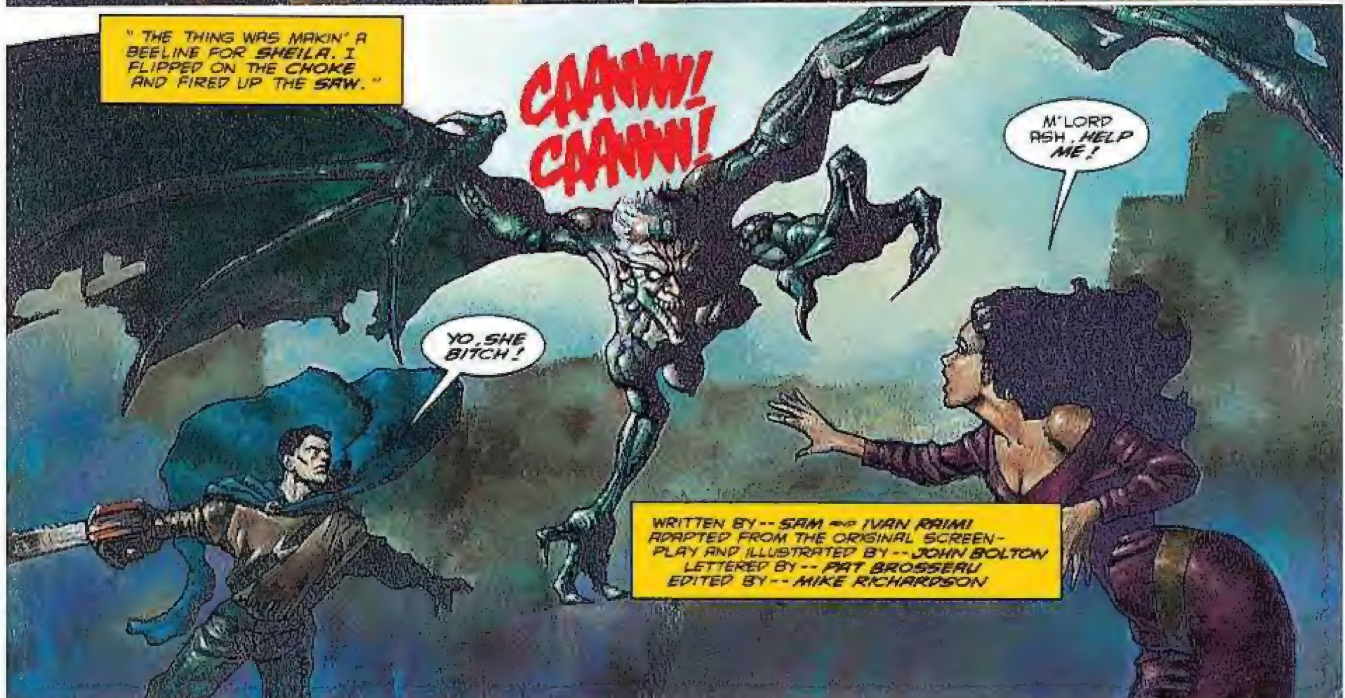
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"THE WISEMAN HAD AGREED TO SEND ME BACK TO MY OWN TIME. I WAS ALREADY THINKIN' 'BOUT MY JOB BACK AT S-MART. HOW I'D BE PULLIN' SOME DOUBLE SHIFTS TO PAY FOR THAT BAR/CD PLAYER WITH THE BUILT-IN, SIMULATED FIREPLACE. THE KIND WHERE THE LOGS LOOK LIKE THEY'RE BURNIN', BUT IT'S JUST A LIGHT BULB. IT HAD BEEN ON LAYAWAY AND THAT SWEET BABY WOULD BE MINE REAL SOON. YEAH, I WAS SO CLOSE TO GETTING HOME. EVEN FOUND MY PARKING STUB, LOT 3-G, BUT THAT WAS BEFORE THE DEADITES CAME. HOME WOULD HAVE TO WAIT."



"YOU WANT TO KNOW WHY I JUST STOOD THERE? I WAS SCARED. I COULD FEEL MY STOMACH SEIZIN' UP ON ME AND IT DUMPED A LORD WITHOUT SO MUCH AS A WARNING. WELL, MAYBE THAT'S WHY THEY CALL IT THE DARK AGES."



"THE THING WAS MAKIN' A BEE-LINE FOR SHEILA. I FLIPPED ON THE CHOKE AND FIRED UP THE SAW."

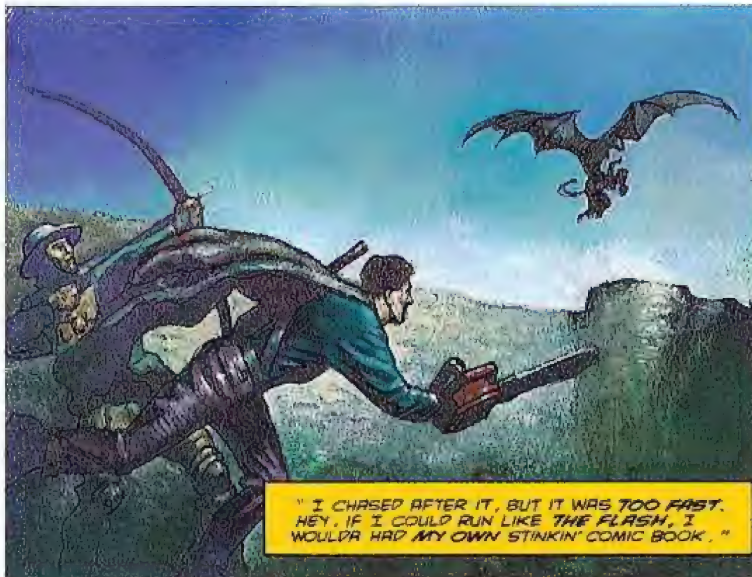
WRITTEN BY -- SAM AND IVAN RAIMI
ADAPTED FROM THE ORIGINAL SCREEN-PLAY AND ILLUSTRATED BY -- JOHN BOLTON
LETTERED BY -- PAT BROSSEAU
EDITED BY -- MIKE RICHARDSON





CAAWW!

"IT TOOK SHEILA."



"I CHASED AFTER IT, BUT IT WAS TOO FAST. HEY, IF I COULD RUN LIKE **THE FLASH**, I WOULD'VE HAD MY OWN STINKIN' COMIC BOOK."



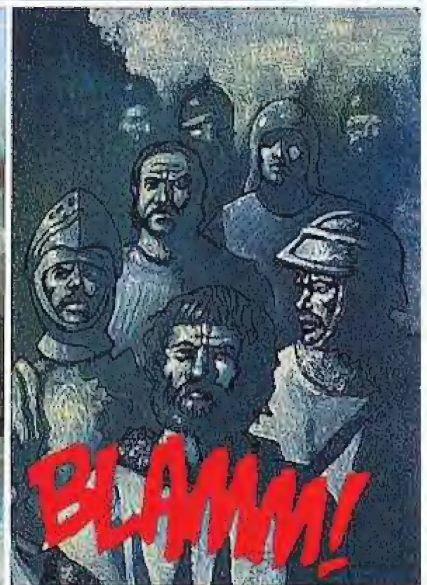
"MY LORD! I JUST HAVE COME FROM THE OUTER REACHES OF THE KINGDOM. AN **ARMY OF THE DEAD** APPROACH. THEY ARE BUT **TWO DAYS' RIDE** FROM HERE."

"SWEET MOTHER OF GOD!"



"THESE WINGED DEADITES ARE BUT THE FIRST. LEGION UPON LEGION SHALL FOLLOW!"

"WE MUST RUN!"



"GO AHEAD AND **RUN!** RUN HOME AND CRY TO YOUR **MAMA**. JUST LIKE YOU BRITS DID IN WW I AND WW II. YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT. **YANKS** LIKE ME PULLED YOUR **SCONE-FILLED BELLIES** OUTTA THE FIRE THEN AND I GUESS I'M GONNA HAVE TA DO IT AGAIN. **WON'T I?**"



"THOU ART TRULY **MAD!** HOW SHALL WE **FIGHT** AN ARMY OF THE DEAD? WE ARE BUT **FIFTY MEN!**"

"WE'LL GET **HENRY THE RED** AND HIS MEN TO FIGHT WITH US."



"WE SHALL **NOT** STAND ALONGSIDE OUR SWORN ENEMY!"

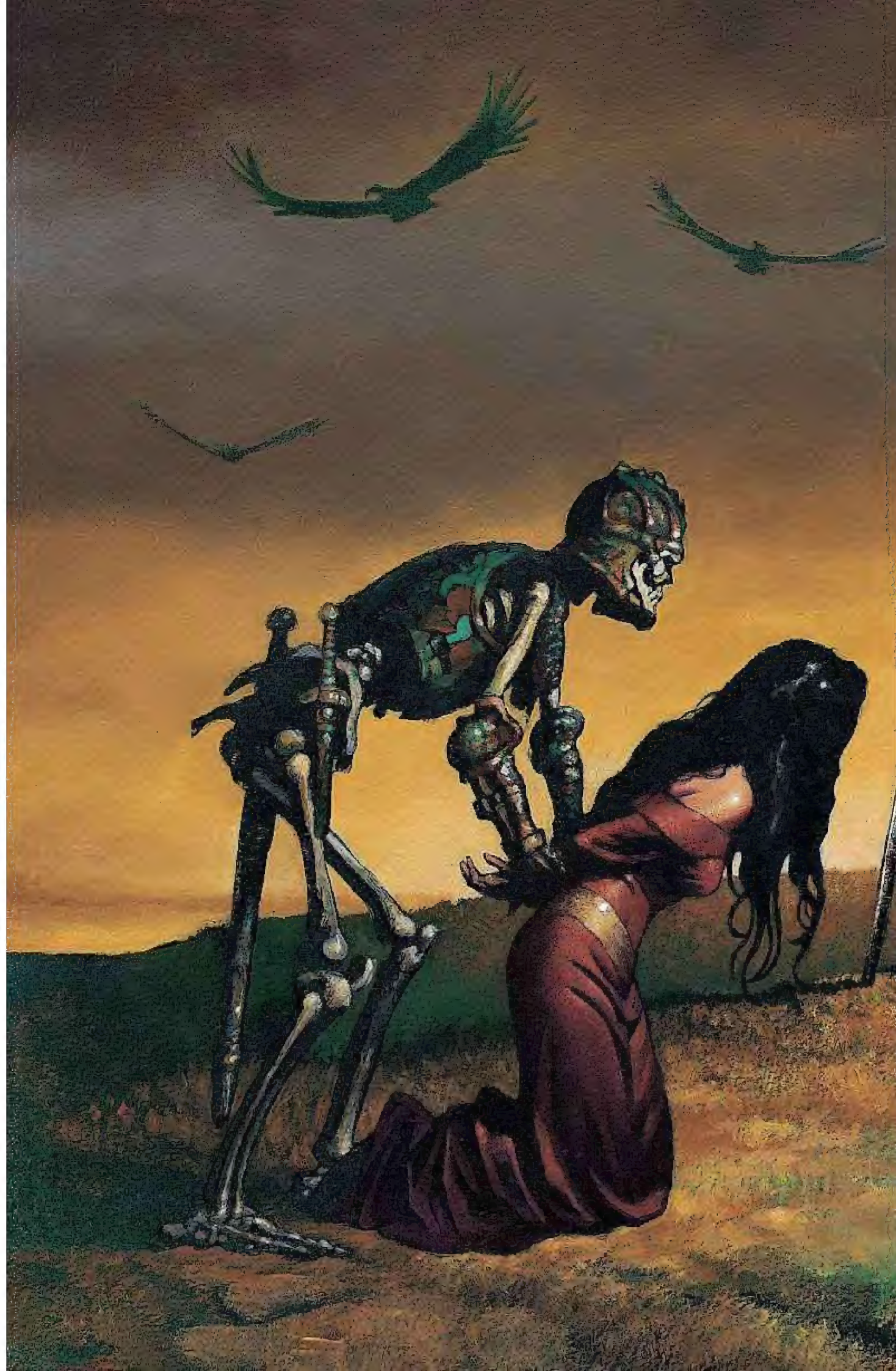
"WHY DON'T YOU JUST SHUT YER **STINKIN' PIE HOLE** FER ONCE AND ASK YERSELF THIS QUESTION: DO I GOT WHAT IT TAKES? DO I GOT THE **SAND** TO STAND UP AND **FIGHT** THESE THINGS? WELL I SAY WE **ALL** DO. NOW, **WHO'S WITH ME?**"



"I'LL **STAND** BY YOU!"

"I'LL BEND MY BOW TO YOUR WILL, SIR!"

"**AYE!**"

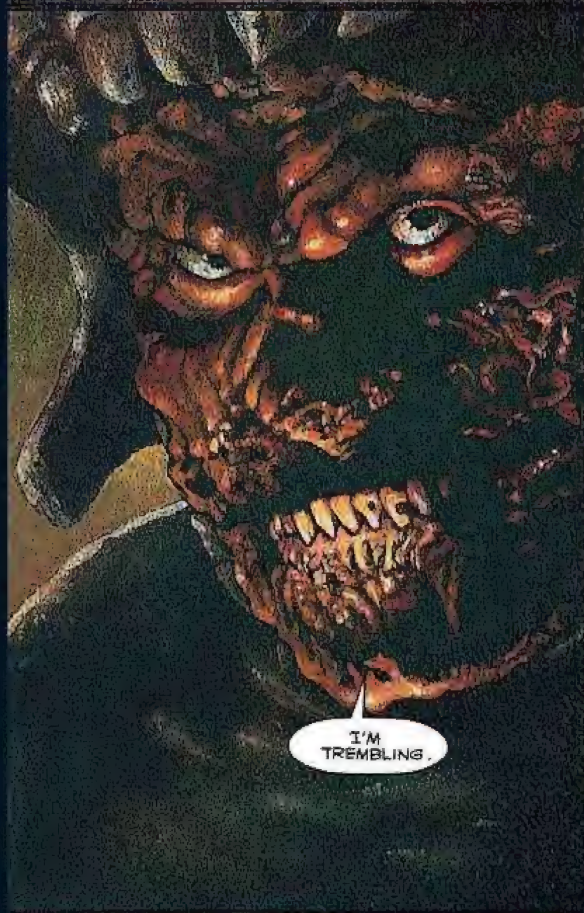




WHY,
AIN'T YOU A
SWEET LIL'
THING?



UNHAND ME
YOU *VILE THING*.
IF YOU SO MUCH AS
LAY A FINGER
UPON ME, M'LORD
ASH SHALL *SLAY*
THEE DEAD.



I'M
TREMBLING.



NOW
CUT THE
CRAP
AND ...



...GIMMEE
SOME *SUGAR*,
BABY.

AAAAAAAAAAAA

" I RODE THROUGH THE WOODS TOWARD HENRY'S CASTLE. EITHER HENRY WOULD JOIN UP TO FIGHT THE ADVANCING DEADITES... OR ARTHUR AND HIS BOYS COULD KISS THEIR FLYING BUTTRESSES GOOD-BYE. "

IF HENRY WON'T HELP, THERE'D REALLY BE NO NEED FOR ME TO GO BACK. I MEAN, WHAT'S ONE MORE GUY GONNA DO? I'D JUST BE IN THE WAY AND...

WHAA--?!

HE WEARS THE INSIGNIA OF ARTHUR!

LORD HENRY, I SHALL SLAY HIM IN THY NAME!

YOU SAVED ME BUT ONCE.

STAY YOUR ARMS. 'TIS THE STRANGER WHO SPARED MY LIFE.

YOU GOT THAT RIGHT. FACT IS, I PULLED YOUR BUTT OUTTA THE FIRE, MORE TIMES THAN DOGS GOT FLEAS.

WHATEVER, POINT IS, THE ARMY OF THE DEAD IS HEADED TOWARD ARTHUR'S CASTLE AND WE NEED YOUR HELP.

WHY SHOULD I RISK MY MEN TO SAVE MY ENEMY?

'CAUSE ONCE THOSE THINGS FINISH WITH ARTHUR, THEY'LL BE COMIN' FER YOU. SIDES... YOU OWE ME.

EVEN A GRAVEYARD HAS ITS FLOWERS. ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MY OWN LITTLE BLOOM OF DECAY...



SAY
HELLO
TO THE
BOYS.

I MAY BE
BAD...

...BUT
I FEEL
GOOD.

"THIS WASN'T ONE OF THOSE WARS YOU SEE ON TV. YOU WEREN'T GONNA GET OUTTA IT WITH A FLICK OF THE REMOTE. NO SIR, YOU MIGHT WANNA BE SOMEPLACE ELSE, BUT MISTER YOU ARE THERE. AND IT AIN'T JUST THE MOTHER OF ALL BATTLES... SHE'S THE MOTHER SCRATCHER. I'M TALKIN' A REAL MEAN CROWD, LIKE YA'D SEE IN THE CUSTOMER SERVICE LINE. DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS, BUT THERE WERE TEN THOUSAND OF THESE SUCKERS. THEY WERE COMIN' THIS WAY AND THEY WEREN'T TAKIN' THE SCENIC ROUTE. BOWS AND ARROWS WEREN'T GONNA CUT IT. WE NEEDED SOME OF THE BASIC, TWENTIETH CENTURY, AMERICAN KILL POWER. WHAT WE NEEDED, WE'D HAVE TO BUILD."

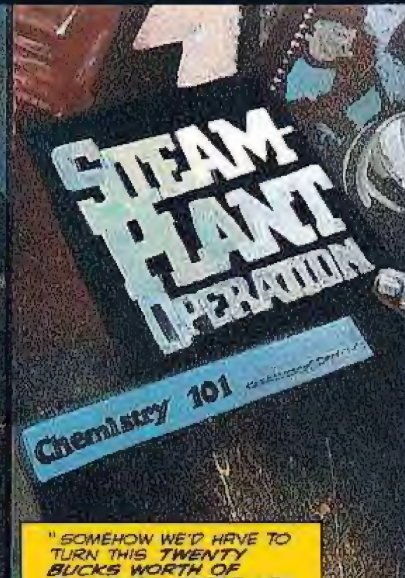
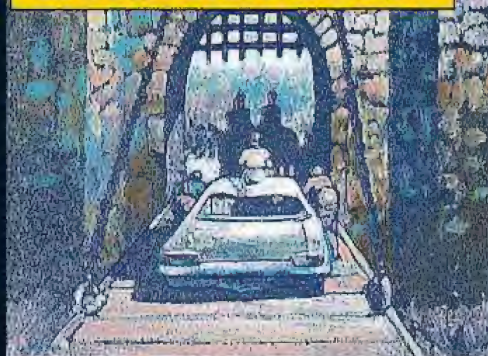
ONWARD, UNDEAD
SOLDIERS! LIFT YOUR
ROTTING BONES
SKYWARD, YOUR RUSTING
BLADES FOR ONE LAST
BATTLE SUPREME! FALL
INTO RANK AND SWEEP
YOURSELVES UP INTO A
MONSTROUS WAVE THAT
SHALL SWELL, AND
SWEEP THE CASTLE
ASUNDER!

TO THE
CASTLE!

DEATH
TO THE
MORTALS!



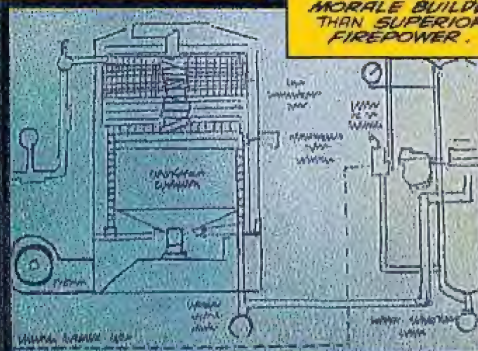
"WE DRAGGED WHAT WAS LEFT OF MY '73 OLDS INSIDE. THE VALVES WERE LEAKIN' OIL LIKE NOBODY'S BUSINESS. THE CARB WAS BLOWN AND IT NEEDED A RIM JOB AND A NEW SET O' HEADERS. DAMN THAT BILL BECKET. I TOLD HIM TO PUT IN A NEW ALTERNATOR AT THE CORNER SUNOCO. SEEMS HE SCREWED ME WITH A REBUILT JOB. I'D SEE TO BILL IF I EVER MADE IT HOME."



"JUST MAYBE WE COULD REBUILD THE THING...WITH STEAM."

"LIKE YER HISTORY BOOKS WILL TELL YA, THERE'S NO GREATER MORALE BUILDER THAN SUPERIOR FIREPOWER."

"SOMEHOW WE'D HAVE TO TURN THIS TWENTY BUCKS WORTH OF JUNKYARD SCRAP INTO A MOTHER OF A KILLIN' MACHINE."



"THE DECISIVE FACTOR IN THE GREAT BATTLES HAS ALWAYS HINGED ON HAVING THE TECHNOLOGICAL EDGE. THE BETTER MOUSETRAP. THE ROMAN'S USE OF BRONZE OVER CRUDE IRON. THE LONGBOW IN THE INVASION OF NORMANDY. OR WAS IT... WATERLOO? HOW THE HELL AM I SUPPOSED TO KNOW? I NEVER HAD TIME TO DO ALL THE STUDYIN' LIKE YOU RICH KIDS DID."



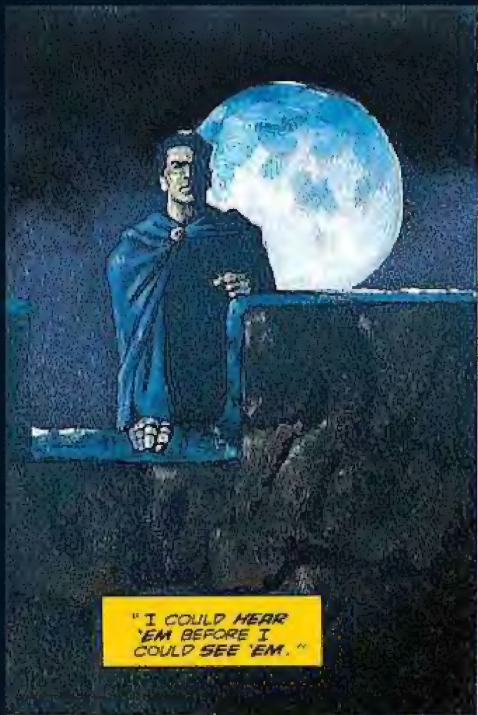
"SOME OF US HAD TO WORK FOR A LIVIN'. STOCKIN' THE SHELVES AT THE S-MART, SO THEY'RE NICE AND NEAT AS YOU PLEASE, WHEN YOU KIDS COME IN TO SPEND DADDY'S MONEY."



"WE PULLED THE GAS TANK OUT OF HER AND BALDY WELDED ME A BOILER. HE COULDN'T SPELL P-O-G BUT HE WAS HELLFIRE WITH THAT HAMMER. RETRO-FITTING THE COMPRESSOR WAS A SONOFABITCH. DON'T EVEN ASK ABOUT THE DRIVE TRAIN."

"I TOLD THE WISEMAN TO STOW HIS POTIONS AND SNAKE OILS. WE NEEDED SOMETHIN' WITH A LITTLE SPARK. A LITTLE BOOM-BOOM. HE HAD SULPHUR AND CHARCOAL UP THE YING-YANG. WHAT I NEEDED WAS THE SALT-PETER. I IMPROVISED WITH A LITTLE ANTIFREEZE AND COW DUNG. THERE'D BE NO TIME TO TEST IT. IT'D HAVE TO WORK THE FIRST TIME."

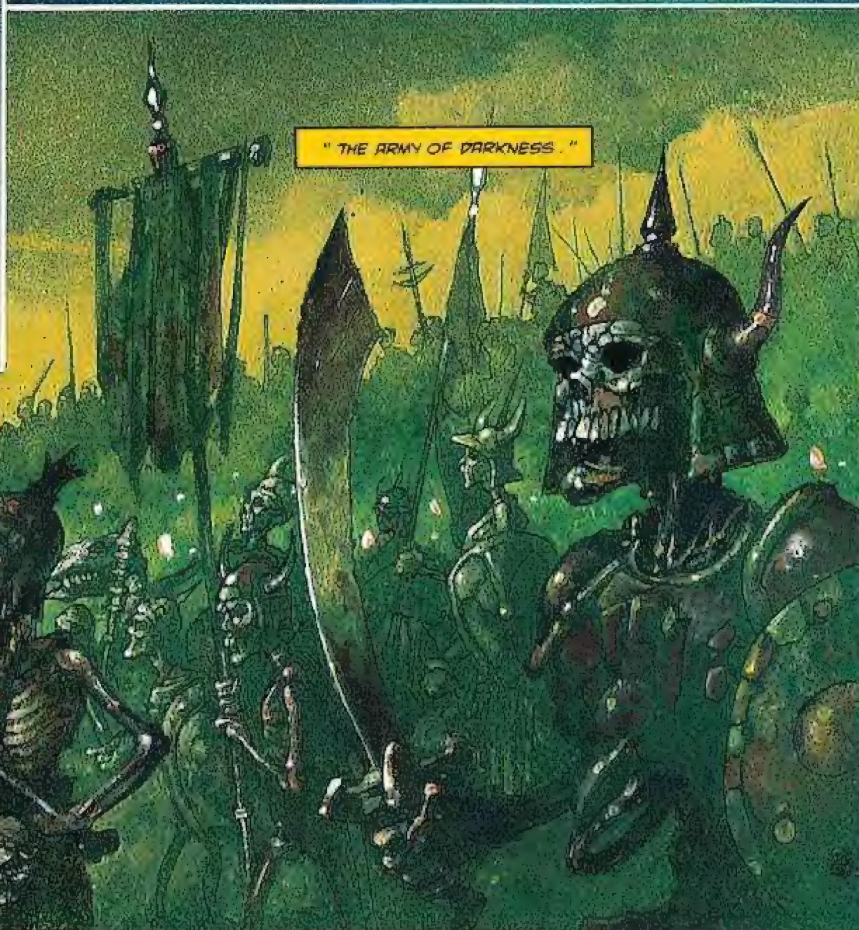




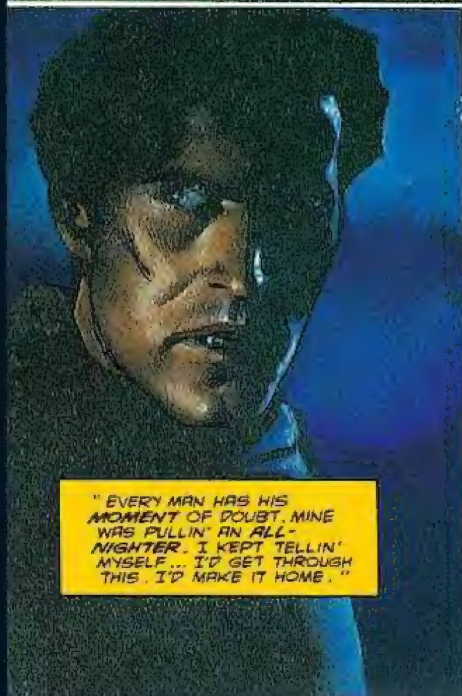
"I COULD HEAR
'EM BEFORE I
COULD SEE 'EM."



"THE CLANG-CLANG-CLANGLING
OF FOOT ARMOR, THE TORTURED
WAILING OF LOST SOULS. THEY
MARCHED UP THROUGH THE MIST
AND I COULD FINALLY SEE 'EM."



"THE ARMY OF DARKNESS."



"EVERY MAN HAS HIS
MOMENT OF DOUBT. MINE
WAS PULLIN' AN ALL-
NIGHTER. I KEPT TELLIN'
MYSELF... I'D GET THROUGH
THIS. I'D MAKE IT HOME."



"AS LONG AS
THEY DIDN'T GET
TO THE BOOK."



"IT ALL CAME
DOWN TO THAT."



FIRE!

SNOOSH SNOOSH SNOOSH



"A SECOND DIVISION WAS
SNEAKIN' UP FROM THE
SOUTH. I'D SOFTEN 'EM UP
WITH A LITTLE ARTILLERY."



"THE FUSES ON THESE
SWEET BABIES WERE A
LITTLE TRICKY. NO TELLIN'
HOW FAST THEY'D GO, OR
IF THEY'D EVEN WORK."



"THE FIRST
BAG CLEARED
THE WALL."



**KER-
BLOOM!**



"THEY WORKED ALL
RIGHT, AND NOW."



**DAMN
HIM!**

**FALL
BACK!**



"THE AIR STUNK OF SULPHUR
AND BURNING BONES. I
GUESS I DIDN'T MIND THE
SMELL...WE'D TURNED BACK
THE FIRST WAVE."



CAPTAIN!
REPORT!

M' LORD! THE
MORTAL POSSESSES
POWERFUL MAGIC.
OUR FIRST LINE HAS
FALLEN. I'VE CALLED
FOR RETREAT.



DISMISSED.

SLICE!



YOU ARE NOW
MY CAPTAIN. I
WILL HAVE THE
BOOK. NOW BRING
ME FORTH INTO
THAT CASTLE!

AYE, MY
LIEGE!



FIRST DIVISION!
HOIST THE
LADDERS AND
STORM THE
WALLS!

YOU THERE!
MAN THE BATTERING
RAMS! FOR THE
GLORY OF DARK-
NESS! RAM THE
GATES!



FORWARD!



THEY ARE
OVERRUNNING
THE WALLS!
WHAT
NOW?!

I DON'T
KNOW...
I...

"SO MAYBE I WASN'T READY FOR 'EM. HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN READY FOR A SECOND WAVE? THEY WERE COMIN' IN TOO FAST. NOW SOME OF YOU MAY THINK OL' ASH SCREWED UP. 'COURSE IT'S REAL EASY FOR YOU RICH KIDS TO POINT YER STUBBY LITTLE CHOCOLATE-STAINED FINGERS AND BLAME ME WHEN EVERYTHING GOES MUCKY. BUT YOU WEREN'T THERE, WERE YA?!"



DEATH
TO THE
MORTALS!

STAND FAST
AGAINST
THESE DEAD-
ITES! STAND--
AIEEEEE!!



" I DON'T REMEMBER TURNING AND
RUNNING. BUT I GUESS I DID.
YOU WANT TO CALL ME A CHICKEN?
GO AHEAD. I WON'T SAY YER WRONG.
BUT I AIN'T SAYIN' YER RIGHT,
EITHER. "

COWARD!
STAY AND
FIGHT!

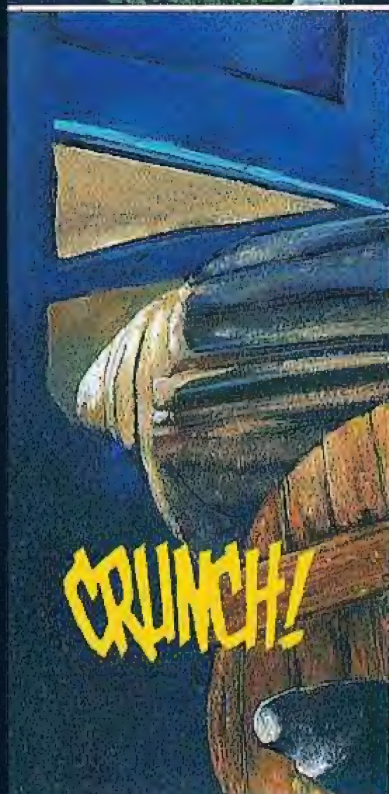


I WAS A
FOOL TO
TRUST HIM.
ALL IS
LOST.



HEAVE!

HO!



CRUNCH!



" THESE WERE CREATURES
OF VIOLENCE AND TERROR.
CREATURES THAT KNEW ONLY
EVIL. BUT BAD? NO SIR.
THEY AIN'T SEEN BAD. "

WE'VE
BROKEN
THROUGH!

THE
CASTLE IS
OURS!

TO THE
BOOK!

BAD IS A V-8 452 SUPER-CHARGER, BORED OUT TO THE MAD. BAD IS TWENTY-EIGHT HUNDRED POUNDS OF SCREAMIN' DETROIT STEEL, COMIN' AT YA IN OVERDRIVE.

"HOW FAST WAS I GOIN' REAL FAST."

УЕАААА ВАВУ!

"YA DON'T ARGUE WITH A 9600 RPM GINSU KNIFE. AIN'T IT A CHERRY? THE PISTONS WERE SEIZIN' UP A BIT, BUT WHAT DO YOU EXPECT WHEN YER USIN' OX GREASE WHEN THE JOB CALLS FER 10-W-40."

WHIP. GPP. WHIP. GPP.

"SUDDENLY I WAS HAVIN'
A KODAK MOMENT. THERE
WAS MUZZAK."

"A VISION
JUST AHEAD."



"IT WAS ..."



"...SHEILA."

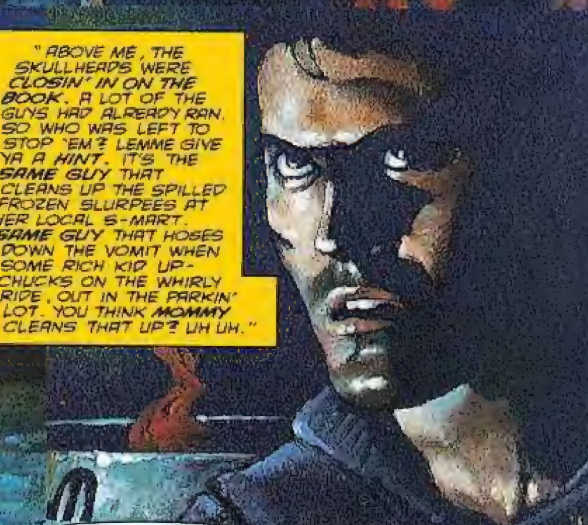


"THE DEATHCOASTER'S
HUNGRY BLADES WERE
ALMOST UPON HER. I
JERKED THE WHEEL HARD
BUT I WAS GOIN' TOO
FAST. THE AXLE COULDN'T
HANDLE THE TORQUE. I
GOT A SICK FEELIN' IN
MY GUT WHEN I HEARD
THE DRIVETRAIN SNAP.
THE SUCKER STARTED
TO ROLL AND I BAILED."

SCREECH!!



"SHE WENT UP LIKE A PINTO."





"IF I WAS GONNA *MAKE THE SCENE*, I'D HAVE TO GET WHERE THE *ACTION* WAS. I'D RIDE THE LIP OF THE *CURL*. *TOPSIDE*."



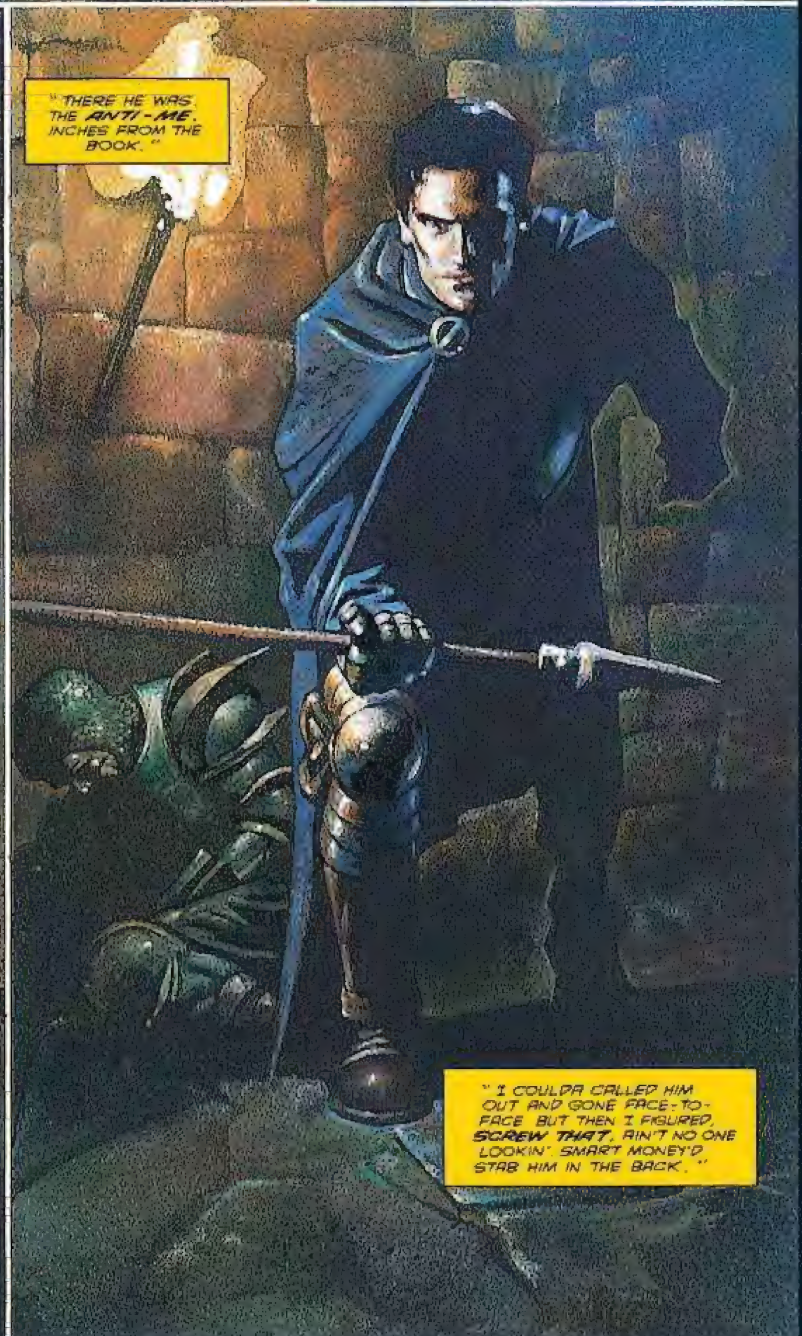
"*HANG TEN*, BABY. HERE I COME."



"*HUFF*. I GOTTA LAY OFF THOSE *CHEESE HORGIE DOGS*!"

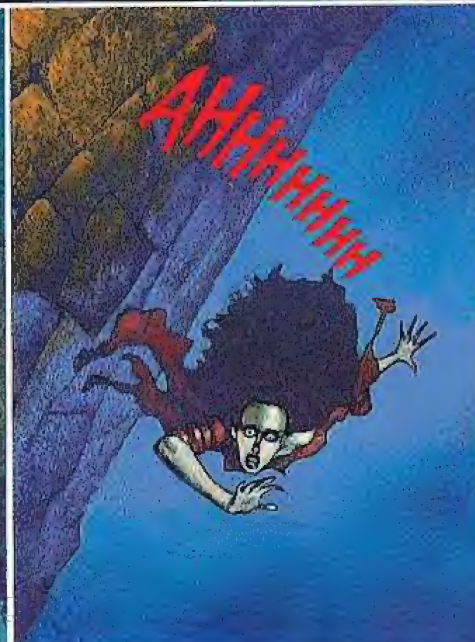


"THE *NECRONOMICON*. *AT LAST...*"



"THERE HE WAS. THE *ANTI-ME*. *INCHES FROM THE BOOK*."

"I COULDA CALLED HIM *OUT* AND GONE *FACE-TO-FACE*. BUT THEN I FIGURED *SCREW THAT*. AIN'T NO ONE *LOOKIN' SMART* MONEY'D *STAR HIM IN THE BACK*."





YES... THE
NECRONOMICON.
WITH IT, MY
PESTILENCE
SHALL FALL UPON
THE EARTH FOR
TEN THOUSAND
YEARS.



YOU WANT
THAT BOOK.
YOU *DANCE*
WITH ME.



FOOL. ONCE THE
BOOK IS IN MY GRASP,
I SHALL SIT UPON THE
THRONE OF DARKNESS
AS RULER SUPREME.



ONLY *THRONE*
YOU'LL BE SITTIN'
ON IS THE "JOHNNY
DUMPSTER."



WHOOOSH

AIEEEEE!!

SUCK
TORCH.

"HE DANCED ABOUT
ALL HERKY-JERKY,
DOIN' THE BURNT
MARSHMALLOW TWO-
STEP."

"THE MONSTER AIN'T
BEEN MADE, THAT
COULD COME OUTTA
THAT BLAZE."

"BUT SOMETHIN' DID."

HEH, HEH, HEH.
FOOL I DID YOU
THINK A LITTLE
FIRE WOULD SLOW
ME? I AM BORN
OF A PLACE OF
A THOUSAND
FLAMES.

A PLACE
I'LL SEND
YOU NOW.

KLANG!

WOOSH!

SPARK!

SSSSSSSS

SSSSSSSS

WHIR-WHIR!

KRAK!

"HE MIGHTA COME FROM A PLACE
OF A THOUSAND FLAMES BUT I
GREW UP IN DETROIT. AT SCHOOL
YA LEARN TO THROW A RIGHT
CROSS BEFORE LONG DIVISION."

"IT WAS THE TIGHTLY WOUND
SPRING RATCHETS IN THE STEEL
HAND THAT GAVE ME THAT EXTRA
POP. IT WAS A GOOD SOUND.
LIKE THE CLEAN CRACK A FAST
BALL MAKES WHEN IT KISSES THE
SWEET SPOT OF A LOUISVILLE
SLUGGER. HE'D BE NEEDIN' SOME
BRIDGEWORK."



WHOOSH

SNAP!

UHG!

"HE PULLED A
JEAN-CLAUDE
VAN DAMME
ON ME."



"TUMBLING OVER THE
WALL, I GRABBED AT
THE NIGHT SKY. THE
GROUND RUSHED UP TO
FRENCH KISS ME. I
DIDN'T HAVE THE AIR
IN MY GUT TO SCREAM."



COME
TO ME MY
SWEET.



"I HAD HIT HURT. MY
SHOULDER WAS HURTIN'
AWFUL BAD. AND I THINK
I MIGHTA BUSTED A KIDNEY."

"IF I EVER GOT HOME I GUESS
I'D TELL 'EM IT HAPPENED IN
THE HOUSEWARES AISLE AT WORK.
YOU CAN CLAIM WORKMAN'S
COMP FOR THAT STUFF. LOTS
OF GUNS DO."



"THE WIND WHISTLED THROUGH HIS BONES AS HE LEAPT. HE WAS COMIN' DOWN TO GET SOME, BROTHER. I DON'T KNOW IF I HAD ANY LEFT TO DISH OUT. I WAS RUNNIN' ON VAPORS."



"IT WAS HENRY THE RED AND HIS BOYS. THEY WERE TOO LATE... BUT THEY WERE ALL THE DISTRACTION I NEEDED."





"HE WAS HEADIN' NORTH, DOIN' SIXTY KNOTS WHEN I LAST SAW 'IM."

KA-BOOM!



"HENRY'S BOYS MOPPED UP THE STRAGGLERS."



"SHE SEEMED TO BE COMIN' BACK FROM VOODOO-VILLE."



"I WAS HAPPY TO SEE HER, UP AND AROUND AND ALL... AND BETWEEN YOU AND ME, ONCE A WOMAN GOES BAD ON YA, CAN YOU EVER REALLY TRUST HER?"

"WHEN THE LAST DEADITE
FINALLY **BEAT IT**, I FIGURED
EVERYTHING WAS JAKE.
BUT **FIGURIN'** WAS NEVER
NEVER MY STRONG SUIT."



HENRY.
MY OLDEST
ENEMY.

"THEY WERE SQUARIN'
OFF LIKE JUNKYARD DOGS.
I SMELLED THE RANK
PERFUME OF TROUBLE-
DOUBLE."



INDEED...

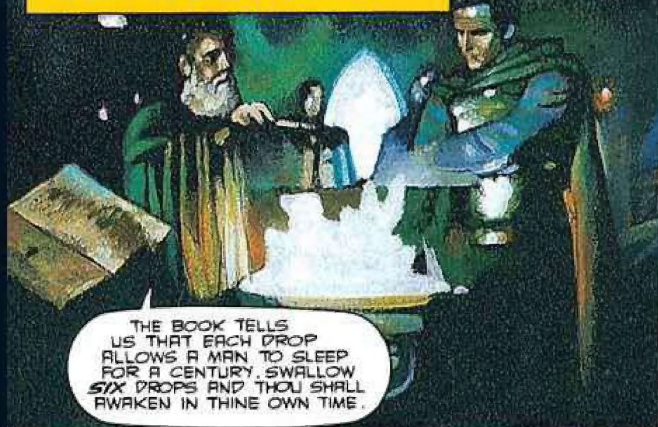
BUT
ENEMIES NO
MORE!

FROM
THIS DAY
FORTH, **FAST
FRIENDS!**



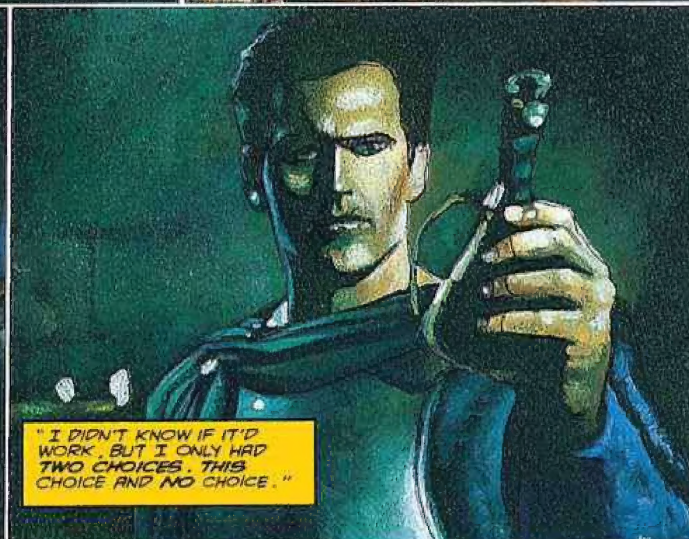
"MY WORK HERE
WAS DONE. NOW
THEY COULD SEND
ME **HOME**."

"THE WISEMAN MIXED A STRANGE BREW.
I WAS GONNA HAVE TO DRINK IT, SO
I WATCHED HIM CLOSE. SEE, YA NEVER
WANNA TURN YOUR BACK ON A SHORT-
ORDER COOK. I KNOW, 'CAUSE I USED
TO WORK THE GRILL AT S-MART."

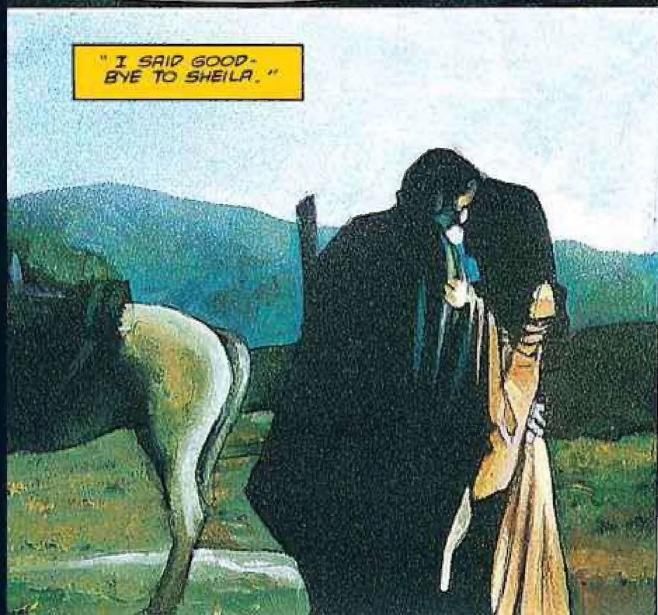


THE BOOK TELLS
US THAT EACH DROP
ALLOWS A MAN TO SLEEP
FOR A CENTURY. SWALLOW
SIX DROPS AND THOU SHALL
AWAKEN IN THINE OWN TIME.

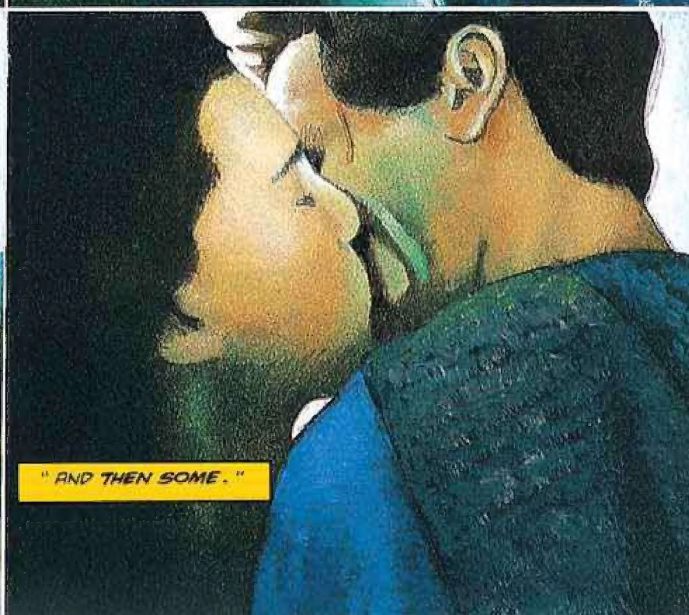
"I DIDN'T KNOW IF IT'D
WORK, BUT I ONLY HAD
**TWO CHOICES. THIS
CHOICE AND NO CHOICE.**"



"I SAID GOOD-
BYE TO SHEILA."



"AND THEN **SOME**."





"IF I WAS GONNA SLEEP FOR SIX HUNDRED YEARS, I HAD TO FIND SOMEPLACE THAT WAS SECURE. I HAD 'EM WHEEL WHAT WAS LEFT OF MY DELTA 88 INTO A CAVE."



"I PLANTED THE POWDER CHARGES AND SAID SO LONG TO THE FELLAS. WE EXCHANGED ADDRESSES, BUT YOU KNOW HOW THAT GOES."



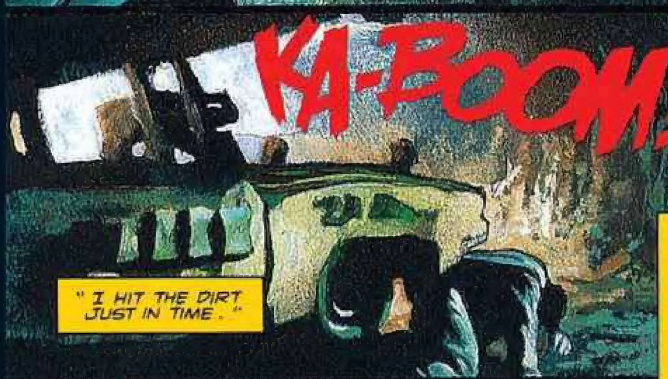
SPUTTER-SSSSSSSS

"I LIT THE FUSE."



SSSSSSSS

"THEY WERE BURNIN' FASTER THAN I THOUGHT."



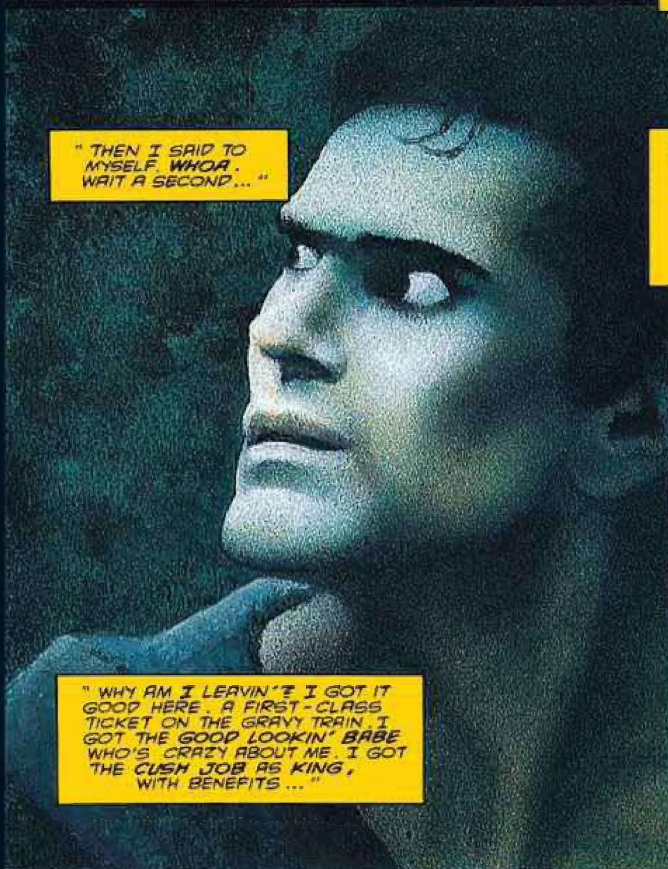
KA-BOOM!

"I HIT THE DIRT JUST IN TIME."



ONE ... TWO ... THREE ... FOUR ...

"IT WORKED. I WAS SEALED IN GOOD. I TOOK OUT THE WISE-MAN'S JUICE. HE HAD SAID TO DRINK EXACTLY SIX DROPS AND BROTHER, BELIEVE ME, I COUNTED EACH ONE AS THEY FELL INTO MY MOUTH."



"THEN I SAID TO MYSELF, WHOA. WAIT A SECOND..."

"WHY AM I LEAVIN' IF I GOT IT GOOD HERE. A FIRST-CLASS TICKET ON THE GRAYV TRAIN. I GOT THE GOOD LOOKIN' BABE WHO'S CRAZY ABOUT ME. I GOT THE CUSH JOB AS KING, WITH BENEFITS..."



"BUT ON THE DOWNSIDE, I'D BE TOSSIN' AWAY ALL MY ACCUMULATED VACATION TIME DOWN AT S-MART, AND THAT CD/BAR COMBO I HAD ON LAYAWAY. NOW I MAY NOT BE BOOK-SMART LIKE SOME OF YOU WELL-TA-DO KIDS, BUT ONE THING I DO KNOW: YOU DON'T WALK FROM THAT HELL. THAT SUCKER WAS AS GOOD AS PAID FOR. I TOOK THE FINAL DROPS. NOW WHERE WAS I? OH YEAH..."

FOUR ... FIVE ... SIX.



"OLD MR. SANDMAN
SPRINKLED HIS DUST."



"I SLEPT,
AND DREAMED."

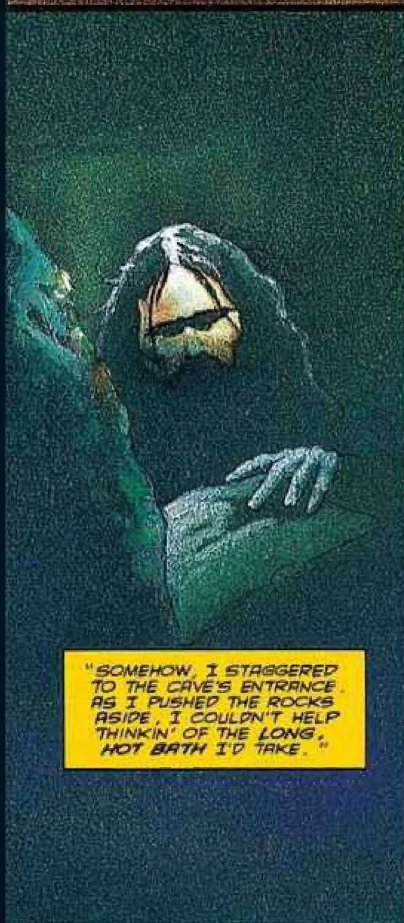


"TILL FINALLY I AWOKE."

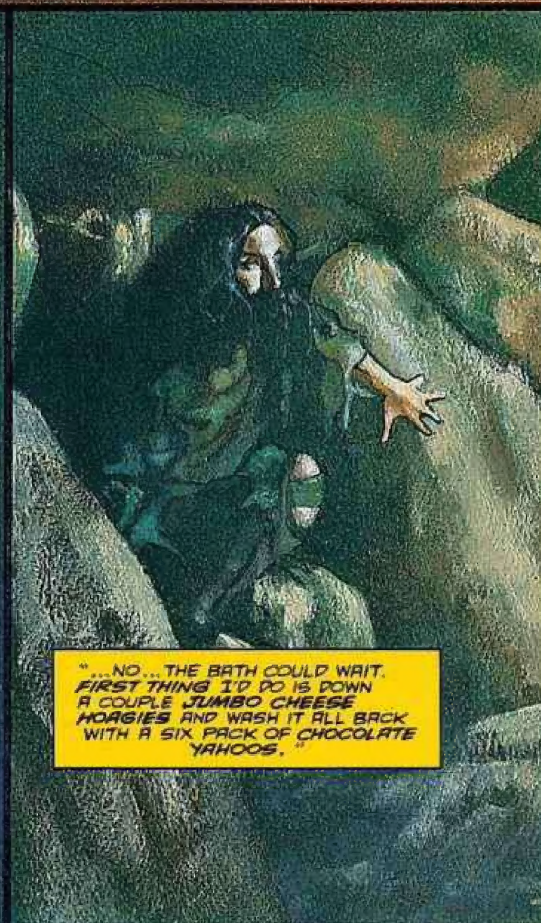


h...h...home.

"DREAMS
THAT LASTED
CENTURIES."



"SOMEHOW, I STAGGERED
TO THE CAVE'S ENTRANCE.
AS I PUSHED THE ROCKS
ASIDE, I COULDN'T HELP
THINKIN' OF THE LONG,
HOT BATH I'D TAKE."



"...NO... THE BATH COULD WAIT.
FIRST THING I'D DO IS DOWN
A COUPLE JUMBO CHEESE
HOGIES AND WASH IT ALL BACK
WITH A SIX PACK OF CHOCOLATE
YAHOO'S."



"THERE WAS
ONLY ONE
HITCH..."

"...I'D SLEPT TOO LONG."

DEAR
GOD... THEY
SCREWED
ME.

End